

ISSUE # 19

Bi-Monthly Magazine

June 2005

ABOLISHING THE BORDERS FROM BELOW

DONT DEMAND WORK WHEN
IT IS JUST SLAVERY

THIS STRENGTHENS OUR
OPPRESSION =

ITS TIME TO REJECT IT

SO DONT WORK AT ALL =

REVOLUTIONIZE WORK OR JUST
WORK FOR THE REVOLUTION

Anarchist Courier from Eastern Europe

There is a justifiable need to abolish the borders between nations, societies, cultures and whatever else separates and defines us. In order that this process does not lead to the formation of new borders or other types of segregation, like those established by elitist institutions such as the EU, NATO or UN, it has to be done from below, by the people. There is an enduring need to immediately abolish all states, governments and authoritarian institutions so that communities based on common values such as freedom, respect, cooperation and solidarity can be formed. These communities in turn can lead to the transformation of the world order into one based on the above mentioned values. In order to push that process forward with support for the development of the anarchist movement over the borders we have created ...

"ABOLISHING THE BORDERS FROM BELOW" AN ANARCHIST COURIER FROM EASTERN EUROPE

There are many reasons why it is necessary to put out this type of publication on a regular basis. There are a large number of anarchist groups in EE which could operate much more effectively with a continual exchange of ideas, tactics, experiences and materials with similarly minded groups from all over Europe and the World. It is clear that many western activists are also interested in the ideas and actions of the "eastern anarchists". We believe it to be necessary to tighten the cooperation between east and west in resisting Fortress Europe, the globalization of the world economy, and above all capitalism and its effects on our life. A mutual exchange of ideas, motivations, and cooperation from anarchist communities all over Europe is needed on a day to day basis not only in times of international protests like the ones in Prague, Gothenburg and Genoa. The intent of this paper is to set up a better network of communication between groups and individuals from different parts of the continent. It is also a platform for regular presentation and exchange for various anarchist groups from EE as well as helping to strengthen contacts between them and will hopefully lead to mutual inspiration. It also offers an opportunity for effectively organizing common campaigns and struggles. The process of creating an editorial team for AbolishingBB was a great step toward this so we appeal to everyone to make the most of the information here as effectively as possible. Finally this paper can be seen also as a mirror of our movement so every positive development in EE is coming back to us in form of motivation for further work on this magazine ...

An Anarchist Courier

"AbolishingBB" is a bi-monthly magazine with information on different political and cultural processes and activities in Eastern Europe seen, commented on and analysed from an anarchist perspective.

Editorial Team & Abolishing Collective

ABB is an international collective of migrant anarchist activists living in Berlin. The collective was formed in Autumn 2001 by a group of east-european migrant activists and was later joined by other migrant activists from other parts of the world. As well as this publication the collective also organizes a radio-show, a libertarian library, various solidarity actions, informative meetings and cultural events. We also cooperate with other anarchist groups, projects and campaigns (mostly in EE but not only) and support local and global struggles against all kinds of oppression and for a free-society.

Correspondents

Our work would not be possible without the great contributions of our correspondents from around EE. The work is based on a relatively stable network of correspondents from different regions of EE which are covering the most current, important and interesting issues. All people involved in AbolishingBB work on no-profit bases.



Executors

Correspondents: Dima (Lwów - Ukraine), Orest (Prisutina - Kosovo); Pavel (Prague - CS), Krivash (Bratislava - Slovakia), Marija (Skopje - Macedonia), Saszka (Grodno - Belarus), Nastya (Minsk - Belarus), Aleksei, Vlad and Utke (Moscow - Russia), Tuuli & Slon (Petersburg - Russia), Domas (Vilnius - Lithuania), Ivo (Ryga - Latvia), Maja (Ljubljana - Slovenia), Jelena-Suncana (Zagreb - Croatia), Tavi (Timisoara - Romania), M. (Ankara - Turkey), Laura, Zaczek, Michu (Warszawa, Torun - Poland), Barbara (Belgrad - Serbia), Lajos (Budapest - Hungary).

Publishing, editing, text treatment, translation, photos & graphics treatment, layout, cover concept, english-proof, distribution to the local distributors, website design ... : ABB Collective

Print: DreiGroschenDruck & ABB + YellowKid

Other Sources of Info

These are: "alterEE" EE-anarchists internet discussion list, "Warhead" - internet info service of @-activities in Poland, ABC info bulletins, "Avtonom" russian magazine of Autonomous Action Network, various EE-IMC's & others.

Co-operation

If you operate in Eastern Europe you can send to us info about protests, manifestations and other actions going on in your region ... you can present activities of groups, collectives and projects working in your neighbourhood ... you can inform us about up-coming political and cultural events ... you can present statements of your group on local or global issues, you can express your ideas, opinions or criticism ... everything from anarchist perspective. You can join our redaction collective as a correspondent sending regular reports covering different forms of activities in your region.

If you operate in other parts of the world you can help with distribution. You can spread information about this publication or just make the most of the information here as effectively as possible.

Deadlines

Deadline for next issue: 15.07.2005

Distribution

We are looking for people/collectives ready to distribute this publication on a regular basis in their regions (especially in southern Europe). Previous issues are as well available - contact the distribution team.

Free Copies / Print-Run

Free copies go to all info-shops and libertarian libraries in Eastern Europe (which get in touch with us) as well as to our correspondents who supply a postal address. At the moment we print by ourselves 1500 copies of each issue, and there are some local groups which make more copies by themselves after our agreement on that.

Finances

Unfortunately until now we were not able to cover our costs only through selling the newspaper so we would appreciate, if possible, benefits from outside.

Bad enGlish Reputation

As you probably noticed *THE ENGLISH* which is used in this newspaper is very far from its gramatical and stylistic ideals. It is mostly because this is *ENGLISH* in which most of our correspondents, big part of our readers and most of us (as the editors) are communicating. So obviously we choose to use *ENGLISH* which is understandable for ourselves. Secondly, we decided to be rather "*BAD ENGLISH REPUTATION*" newspaper as to rise a level of language and this way eliminate probably 30-60% of our regular readers, especially in south and eastern Europe.

AbolishingBB Online

www.abb.hardcore.lt

This website is from one side a source of information about our collective but basicaly - an archive of all texts which appeared in our newspaper in the past. Check it out (some chapters are still under construction).

Not 100%

We do not necessarily agree 100% with all opinions expressed in the journal, however, but all here we found as worth to be printed (for various reasons) !!!

Front Cover

The front cover slogan created heated debate within the collective due to different perspectives and perceptions of the concepts and realities of "work" itself. We'd be interested in hearing the results of your discussions.

This little anarchist project which just through its existence supports many others anarchist projects ...
... needs your financial support !

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EAST EUROPEAN MAYDAY REPORTS

pages 13-15



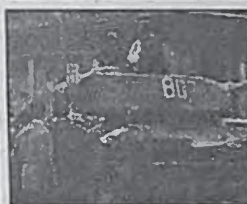
KOSOVO - TIME TO SHAKE NATIONALIST BELIEFS TO THE GROUND INTERVIEW AND REPORT

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POPULAR LESSONS OF DESTABILISATION FROM KYRGYZYSTAN

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"BEYOND THE CARPATHIANS, THE NIGHTMARE BEGINS" PROGRESS REPORT FROM HUNGARY

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POLISH WORKERS ORGANISING

REPORTS FROM RECENT MEETINGS

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POPE GOES UNDERGROUND! THE POPE POPS OFF WITH A POP

pages 35-37



MONETARIZATION OF FREE SOCIAL BENEFITS IN RUSSIA

STORM OF PROTESTS ACROSS THE COUNTRY

ABB for the last 6 months * @ Bookfair Report * Social Struggles * Squatting * Equality Parade Banned * Columns and more...

EDITORIAL: WHAT HAS TO DIE - DIES!

WE RATHER IMPROVE OUR MICRO-WORLD AND GO ON, THE SAME AS WE EXPECT TO HAPPEN ON THE GLOBAL SCALE

If some of you have already put the funeral cross on AbolishingBB after not seeing the new issue for about 6 months, you must already have realized - you were wrong. Actually, it was the Pope, the Ukrainian regime and some other East-European oppressive creatures which have died during the last months, but not our modest anarchist project. Just another proof against all this boring authoritarian propaganda (from the right as well as from the left) consciously reproducing the wrong picture of anarchists as basically "5 minutes warning" (read: radical but short-term) and tied in with the past by nostalgia, post-romantically circles. Well, what has to die - dies, we rather improve our micro-world and go on and the same we wish and expect to happen on the global scale. It's because we see the anarchist movement as a systematically improving network of social arrangement with both contemporary and future focuses, based strongly on today's reality and that's why we believe stronger everyday that anarchist-concept(s) are the one(s) most worthy of our support and personal engagement. In these terms, welcome to the, first after the "reconstruction" and #19 in general, June 2005 edition of Abolishing the Borders from Below magazine. We are coming back on a regular basis, with the re-consolidated networks of correspondents and distributors, it means you should be able to see this publication from now on, again 6 times per year.

Most of you might be curious about the mysterious "reconstruction". Just giving briefly an overview: at the end of 2004 we found ourselves in deep and multi-causal crises which made impossible the continuation. The massive financial, personal and principal problems had to be solved. So we took a collective decision to give us about 6 months break for the reconstruction of the project. What exactly the problems were, how did we reach this crises and how fantastically we managed to get out of it - all of that you can read in the special for that occasion prepared text: "Just exactly which beach has the ABB crew been sitting on for the last 6 months?..." (to be found in this issue - see page 6). For the full ABB-story and other info you can check as well our website: www.abb.hardcore.it

One of the significant innovations within our project in the last months is the joining of new (emigrant) comrades of not necessarily EE-backgrounds (even very much not at all!!!). This interesting extension of the collective leads at first to three qualitative improvements within ABB: the enrichment of the spectrum of experiences and perspectives within the group; the collective stopped describing itself as the specifically EE-emigrant-anarchists group (however the "barbarians" are still strongly present, so a change towards the focus of the newspaper is not expected so far); and last but not least - our lingual capacities improved radically... (except for when the

english proofing is done at weird hours of the morning on not enough sleep). It does not mean that we are not going to keep on proudly the "bad English reputation" line ... *you has forget please dis ...!* In fact not the language-beauty but the idea, and finally, not even the idea itself, but the support for its effective introduction into real life is what we in fact find exciting within the ABB-project.

Of course 6 months is a long time especially for a so called "courier" and even especially for an "anarchist courier from Eastern Europe" because the social frictions/struggles and the EE-anarchists commitment to it, could make it worth while to put out such a newspaper on a weekly basis. Finally, because of this specific delay, this issue consists of very current reports on the one side, and of many retrospective materials put in brief form, on the other side.

The problems of precarious new work conditions and various aspects of resistance connected with these problematic issues, takes some place in this issue of ABB and certainly will take up much more in the future ones. Certainly it is not specifically just an Eastern European issue, but one which is specifically difficult to move forward towards the EE reality. We have faced this dilemma again during our regular discussion about the concept of the front-cover. There is facing on the one side the existing contradiction between the precariousness and degradation of work conditions, and its equivalent (payment) which hit the EE people so hard today, and on the other side - the common demand for work, in many cases exactly the same work which degraded people. This contradiction takes the shape of a painful paradox which can not hold for much longer. That is why we placed the symbolical watch on our cover. This watch should symbolise the more-dimensional social conflicts which already exist and which are awaited to escalate sooner or later. Once the conflict within the consciousness of the self-respect of a huge number of eastern Europeans, which are raising nowadays too many demands against themselves (for more 'slave labour', for the further enlargement of the EU-politics influence-sphere, for building the "orange democracies", etc). The second conflict, to expect as a possible result of the enlightenment above, is the confrontational and dichotomised conflict between all these disillusioned people and all possible kinds of forces of the capitalistic nomenclature. The watch is ticking louder and louder, the questions are: where and when will it reach momentum and how the disillusioned others will react? The already existing East European anarchist / grassroots social structures, at least in some regions of EE (see some reports from Poland, Russia, Serbia, Romania or Slovenia in this or past issues of ABB), seem to be in many cases very welcomed by the still weak organized protest communities, desperately looking for the alternative solu-

tions and for elementary support during their protests. However in many cases the anarchists are not able with their limited capacities to support or even to take an on-time statement on all important and so massively appearing social frictions. The current example is falling on the heads of completely uninformed people (among them the anarchists) - EU-constitution decision-process. Yet, the statements, actions and campaigns of EE-anarchists towards this next stadium of the concrete-isation and the capitalisation of Fortress Europe are to be awaited. Here, the west european anarchist initiatives which are already involved in resisting this process are asked to contact the appropriate groups in the EE in order to consolidate and exchange knowledge, experience and capacities.

Finally, we would like to give our full tribute to all those persons and collectives which helped us to get out from our debt-gap. The gap was so deep that the printing of the next issues seemed to us to be almost a science-fiction story. Here our respect goes in the first line to such groups like: GipfelSturm from Berlin, Noborder from Wien, anarchists from Brighton, Fusion-festival benefit-group from Leipzig, Cafe Morgenrot from Berlin ... and all those distributors of ABB which against their own financial complications managed to pay us back the money for the magazines.

In solidarity with all those resisting capitalism, nationalism and authoritarian people, in solidarity with anarchists around the globe...

**ABOLISHING THE BORDERS
FROM BELOW COLLECTIVE**

**ABOLISHING
THE BORDERS
FROM BELOW**
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THE PREVIOUS ISSUES ARE STILL AVAILABLE DIRECTLY FROM OUR GROUND-ZERO-OFFICE IN BERLIN

issue # 13 - December 2003: Growing resistance against McDonalds and big business (collection of texts from Russia, Poland, Macedonia, Serbia, Lithuania and Romania); short infos from around EE; Uzbekistan and Western Capitalist interests (part 1); Squatting activities (reports from Petersburg, Skopje, Lithuania and Torun/Poland); Interview with Ratibor T. Trinovac from serbian ASI; Summary of XVII General Assembly of polish Anarchist Federation; presentation of various anarchist publications; reports on fascist activities in Romania, Poland and Lithuania; "Its all the same shit" elections in Croatia; workers struggle in Poland, Ukraine and Russia; and much much more !!!

issue # 14 - February 2004: The Alternative Economic Forum, Warsaw Poland April 28-30 2004 (presentation of alternative Summit intentions and topics); Building a critique of the new European Economics; Terrorism: the bogymen of XXI century (public announcement); Peoples Global Action (3rd European Conference and historical perspectives in Europe); Reports from squatting activities; Repressions (Process against Krasnodar anarchist; International solidarity needed for Romanian anarchists; When civil cops are calling - work of secret services); RAZZANI (interview with Belarussian group); Countercultur pages (The case f Nieznalska); Workers Working on their own instead of dismissals (tragic situation of Silesia region in Poland); Campaign against The US Military Base in Poland; CAUCASUS BLOCK: Uzbekistan and Western capitalist interests (part 2); Who needs to take Georgia under control (article); Neighbor war, either peace; Caucasus (Georgia, Armenia, Azerbaijan); A call for an International Day of Action against War in Chechnya; Columns by Correspondents (Poland, Czechia, Slovakia, Russia); and more !

issue # 15 - April 2004: And what happen to the dogs (editorial article); EEF coming to Warsaw (various articles and interview with activist from Warsaw); different info about NoBorder activities; "Vote Putin or Die" - interview with Russian activist after presidential elections in Russia; International Conference "Media and Xenophobia"; "Social explosion in Eastern Slovakia"; (sub)cultural pages; Anarchist Black Cross reports from Russia and Poland; Anti-NATO activities in Hungary and Turkey; Anti-fascist report from Poland; Various shorter texts about situation in Chechnya; Report from Latvija; report from Autonomous Action conference; Columns by our correspondents (this time: Laura and Pavel); and much more stuff !

issue # 16 - June 2004: "so the bull-fist is more visible now" editorial article; interview with activists from Serbia before PGA conference in Belgrade; Workers protests in Poland; East-European Mayday; NATO-summit in Istanbul (interview); Slovakstudents protests; NoBorder activities reports; (sub)Culture pages; Statement by ASI concerning outburst of violence in Kosovo; New Romanian Indymedia; European Economic Forum in Warsaw - report and sum up; Unnoticed News; Anti-fascist struggles in Russia; ABC-Moscow reports; Situation in Uzbekistan; Columns; Announcements; Communities in Struggle; Upcoming events and more!

issue # 17 - September 2004: "Where do we get 25 black pyjamas now?" - minutes from ABB meeting in Belgrade; Council of Europe Summit - towards a citizens' critique of the EU conference; statement from Warsaw; Interview with anarchist from Bosnia & Herzegovina; NESCAFÉ boycott in Poland; Zero tolerance reached Slovakia already; Anarcha-Feminism in Belarus; No Culture Without Subculture - Belarus; Ukrainian Students on the streets; Interview with ANFEMA anarcha-feminist group from Croatia; Report from Ex-Yugoslavian Anarchist Meeting at Zeelenkovac; Radical Ecological Protest Campaign in Perm of Russia - chronology of actions; A place under the sun - movement against urban densification in Moscow; 190th Anniversary of Mikhail Bakunin; Personal account from anti-NATO counter-summit in Istanbul; Letters, Columns and more!

issue # 18 - November 2004: Editorial "No way, you will definitely not find in this issue any indications of where your ears have been seen last time - forget it"; RE-APPROPRIATION IN EASTERN EUROPE: Articles and interviews towards re-appropriation acts and processes in EE part 1; Report on Putins war-politics; Anarchist action against state terror in Moscow; Struggle in "Promised Land" of Capitalists; Presidential elections in Ukraine; Report from Slovakia; "W PASZCZU": Polish anarcho-regionalists from Vilno; Interview with Roma activist; ABC Moscow report; Columns and more!

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Distributors needed!

If you think that you
can help with filling
that network up,
especially in Irland,
Spain or Portugal ...
LET US KNOW



DISTRIBUTION DISTRIBUTION DISTRIBUTION DISTRIBUTION

JUST EXACTLY WHICH BEACH HAS THE ABB CREW BEEN SITTING ON FOR THE LAST 6 MONTHS?...

...basically, winter 2004 was for the ABB crew a really cold one... some of the problems that were affecting the collective for a long time, arrived at a "breaking point"... the collective at that moment found itself drastically reduced in numbers and facing a kind of existential crisis. Several questions were raised with a strong impact among the few people left in the project: how did we get to this point, how are we going to go forward? The people from the old collective tried to question themselves deeply, in order to not let the project come to a certain death, since everyone was still convinced of the importance of its existence. Some meetings started slowly to take place again, where participants began to reflect on the past 3 years of activity, and also - what was felt as a really necessary thing - to let a good and healthy self-criticism come out: the people felt this was really necessary to continue the project.

One of the very first topics approached was definitely how to get more people involved in the project, since a lot of people in the last years left the collective for very different reasons; we started to ask some people who were already collaborating, on different levels with the collective, if they would have liked to engage themselves on a deeper level of participation... it looked like that this trick functioned, and the number of the collective's members doubled itself! With new energy, we could start to talk about ourselves...

We at first discussed how did the collective found itself in this position in order to avoid mistakes for the future and learn from our mistakes of the past, a method which we feel as a constitutive part of our anarchist praxis... major problems that were faced were:

- ★ a drastic reduction in the number of collective members;
- ★ a consequent overwork and over-responsibility for the people left, which lead to a bad and problematic division of the work;
- ★ a related power dynamic within the collective, since some people took more responsibility for many things and it was seen that this procedure increased consequently the level of power between people "who do too much" and people "who do too little", this phenomenon, involving responsibilities from both sides, also raised the level of stress for some people;
- ★ the consequent, slow disappearance of some of the anarchist values that were animating the spirit of collective;
- ★ ...financial problems, of course...
- ★ the problem of male domination within the collective also arose since at least the last year.

We felt it absolutely necessary to approach each of these correlated themes during the meeting time, which we set up again for every

week. Discussions took place, with good self-criticism but also with a good and positive look to the future, approaching the different problems, in a meeting structure where everyone was invited to express his/her own points...

Slowly the new ideas started to come out; a new and more effective organizational structure of the meetings themselves was set up, and the machine started somehow to work again...

In particular, one of the things to note was the importance of the concept of tasks sharing.

In the ongoing discussion about the next issue of the newspaper, also came a strong need for wider task sharing, in order to avoid repeating the above-mentioned difficulties.

What basically we felt was really necessary in our collective, is the building, day by day, of a deep and strong sense of solidarity and mutual support, so as to make possible the development of our own project on these values, as well build for the wider libertarian and anarchist community for which we are aiming.

In the meanwhile, discussions on other related themes are taking place: just to mention, we are slowly revitalizing our anarchist east European oriented library, in our office in Berlin, as well as having deep talks about our engagement as a collective in the ongoing struggles here and around; the participation in the anarchist Balkan bookfair in Zagreb; some more theoretical discussions within the collective about anarchism and other topics... also, we were able to set up, together with other radical groups here in Berlin, a soliparty for ourselves and other projects, because unfortunately the problem of finance is for us, like for almost every other anarchist group around, always more than present! Also in this direction, we are trying to find out, besides the usual soliparties, (which anyway remain one of the most loved ways), how to get some money, for us and for projects we would like to solidarise with, of course in ways that conform to our anarchist principles.

So, it looks like the project is more than alive at the moment, the morale is high, we try to look forward and stay strong on our permanent and fluid process of construction, and we'd like to say that we are totally happy that the importance of this small project is felt, not just by us, but also by the people around, here and in the world, who have always contributed, now and in the past (and hopefully in the future), to the life of it: financial support, discussions, actions, solidarity, the spreading

of mutual support and anarchist ideas, the building of libertarian communities, each of these forms is, for us, felt as an absolutely important contribution to our/your projects and our/your struggles.

It's for us absolutely necessary also to mention again, that the existence of our courier is mostly made possible thanks to the great job of our correspondent team from eastern Europe, who are the people who actually do the most work concerning the writing of reports and of personal analysis about the ongoing struggles taking place over there. We don't want that people reading our courier would forget about them.

As a last point... some of you could be curious as to why we have never raised the issue about possible problems arising from so many people from completely different backgrounds, working together i.e. the specific situation of ABB as the almost exclusively MIGRANT political group. The answer is simple: while there definitely exist some objective boundaries and "anomalies" connected to our foreign status and the wide variety of our origins that affect our activities, we are actually trying to NOT ALLOW these difficulties to handicap us and our work. It is a kind of automatic and consequent collective-refusal of taking positions of "Ausländern" and the role of "Migrants" in the society we live in, which means for us no more and no less than just the daily practice of what we have written on our banner...

**ABOLISHING
THE BORDERS
FROM BELOW!**

ALTERNATIVE EAST EUROPEAN CAFE, INFO. AND MEETING POINT THE "AQUARIUM" IN BERLIN

Every Tuesday of the week between 15:00 and 20:00 you can come round to browse our library of books and journals relating to Eastern Europe, get information relating to EE or just chill out with a cup of coffee and discuss the latest news from the barricades with some good comrades.

**Infoshop Aquarium
Köpenicker Str.137
10179 Berlin-Mitte
Germany**

If you're coming from out of town, see <http://koop1.squat.net> on the web (under "Lageplan") for details on how to get there

ANARHISTICKI SAJAM KNJIGA (ASK) / ANARCHO BOOKFAIR

BALKANSKI ANARHISTICKI SAJAM KNJIGA (BASK) / BALKANIAN ANARCHO BOOKFAIR

The first Anarcho Bookfair (ASK) was held on 18-20.03.2005 in Zagreb. It was held as a part of the second Balkanian Anarcho Bookfair (BASK) that was held last year in Ljubljana. It was conceived as a travelling fair that would go further after Zagreb, unlike ASK that will be happening in Zagreb every spring. The goal of BASK or ASK is the development and representation of anarchistic and libertarian ideas on a specific (geographical) space, through books and other forms of literature, to strengthen the existing connections and relationships within the anarchist movement and improve mutual communication on the local and international level; by that ASK transcends the local boundaries which gives it the importance for international cooperation. The entire organization and the happening itself with all the following expenses and preparations was based on self-financing, i.e. benefit concerts organized by the very participants of the fair. The fair itself was held in the Nova gallery, the Atrium (crossing of the Gajeva and Teslina Street), where the informal opening was held and the booths with books and other materials were installed. Representations of books and projects were held among other things:

FRIDAY:

The presentation of the *Café Libertad* project (www.cafe-libertad.de) from Hamburg, that is through its continuous activity contributing to the survival of the Zapatist communities, and directly supports and helps the armed social fight of the Zapatists, using the principle of fair-trade. The opening of Nesa's and Andrea's exhibit (*Doomsday Graphics* and *Shaved Women*) with the presentation of the book with the same name, with the cooperation of *Louarn Kounnaret Release* from France. (www.doomsdaygraphics.web1000.com) There should've been a presentation of the new editions of *DataArt+*, a publisher from Cakovec, but it was not realized for unknown reasons. (www.dataart.hr)

SATURDAY:

Following the program, between 10:00 and 15:00 the fair was supposed to take place in Preradoviceva street, by the Cvijetni square, and later it was supposed to be moved to Frankopanska street, in the Green Action space. (16:00-21:00). Of course, for the first part of it, which was supposed to be held in the open, the city did not give its permission, despite full filed demands which included the list of displayed literature

(which is censorship), and the permissions asked in advance. Apparently, for the City authorities, the happening sounded too unfit and radical, and they feared that the people of the state metropolis would get in touch with different ideas and attitudes, which would be too dangerous for one "free and democratic Republic of Croatia" still polluted by klerofascistic and nationalistic ideals. In the end we finished the Saturday's program in the Green Action hall, where a debate called *New Strategies of Anti-capitalistic Movement*, comprised of two parts, was held. The first part included the presentation of concrete projects of certain collectives and their way of work and activity, while the second part was supposed to be an open debate involving a discussion of the presented projects, new strategies and changes, and other things suggested by the participants. The discussion started with the presentation of *Hacklabs*, followed by Anarchosyndicalists from the region (ex-YU):

ASC-Anarchosyndicalistic Confederation (from Zadar), *ASI-Anarchosyndicalistic Initiative* (from Serbia); *SiSD* (Slovenia), who prolonged their presentation and so used up a lot of time for open debate. *LETS (Local Exchange Trading System)* that followed presented its free-trade as an alternative to capitalism (without the presence money, but not without the presence of value), they have replaced the money for value points and so continued to function within the existing structures of neo-liberal capitalism.

SUNDAY:

As the fair approached its end, the little remaining time we had was used for more constructive socialization, exchange of experiences and personal impressions of the entire event. In the end the meeting for *Noborder* (which is planned this summer in Istria - but it's still not decided when) was also held. The whole event finished with a party. (...) During the Bookfair, all the participants had secured accommodation (squat, flats, and in the houses of locals) and food (warm meals, juices, cocoa, and coffee ... Zapatista-coffee too, tea...) which was distributed in a room functioning as living room. In spite of all the circumstances the fest went well and better than we had expected, without incidents (that some were anticipating).

Information/Contact:
www.ask-zagreb.org



POLAND

POLAND CHOSEN TO HOST EU BORDERS AGENCY

WARSAW, April 16. Poland won its bid to have the European Union's Border Control Agency based on its soil, becoming the first of the EU's 10 new mainly eastern European states to host an EU body. EU justice and interior ministers backed Poland over Hungary, Malta, Estonia and Slovenia who had also wanted to become home to the agency that will monitor how EU states patrol the bloc's external borders and help train border police. Poland has a 1,200-km (745-mile) border with Russia, Belarus and Ukraine. The budget for the agency this year is some 6 million euros in start-up costs and it will have a budget of 30 million euros in 2009. The agency is scheduled to be up and running on May 1.

GOOD NEWS FROM POLISH SILESIA-REGION: REGIONAL ANARCHIST FEDERATION FORMED

SOSNOWIEC. On April 9, 2005, in the M9 squat in Sosnowiec, there was a regional gathering of anarchists from Silesia. People from cities of Tarnowskie Góry (ZZ IP), Katowice, Jaworzno, Ruda Slaska, Rybnik, Wroclaw, Opole (FA), Kedzierzyn-Kozle (FA), Tychy, Bytom/Cieszyn, Sosnowiec (Apologia, squat M9) and special guests from FA Czesochowa were present. There were anarchists of different sorts there, from anarcho-individualists to mutualists, from anarcho-syndicalists to anarcho-communists. Despite these ideological differences, they were able to reach some general consensus. They decided to form an Anarchist Federation of Silesia, adopted a manifesto and decided to join the Anarchist Federation (county wide).

One of the main problems they have is communication over such a wide area so they decided to start a mailing list, a web page and maybe will start a bulletin. They will hold meetings and conferences in different cities in Silesia. They decided that they wouldn't be working with authoritarian groups whether left or right. They also decided to take part in May Day activities in Czesochowa and the protests against the Council of

Europe Summit in Warsaw.

POLAND IS NUMBER-1 IN THE EU- ON THE UNEMPLOYMENT RANKING

In Poland there is no work for 19.5% Polish workers (3 094 900 people). This official number of course does not include many thousands of immigrants living in Poland which apart from a lack of work, have usually even deeper existential problems. But even with its "national numbers" Poland is beating the infamous record of unemployment in the whole European Union. In January 2005 over 95 thousands workers lost their jobs. In some regions (e.g. in north-east, Silesia) unemployment is reaching above 30%.

POLISH NURSES WEARING BLACK T-SHIRTS

Nurses' hold a protest in their hospital in Kostrzyn (west Poland) by wearing black T-shirts. The reason for the action was that the hospitals were behind with payments. Law is binding in Poland recently that the debt collectors are able to take money allocated for payments. The hospital is in debt in Kostrzyn for over 40 million zlotys. In certain areas payments are taking three months. Hospital authorities secured the payment for workers of 849 zlotys each (1 euro = 4 zloty). However these salaries aren't covering all arrears for these three months. The Workers' Initiative from Poznan supported workers protesting in Kostrzyn. In other hospitals in Poland members of trade unions take up a hunger strike in protest against the work of debt collectors and against the privatisation of health service.

POLICE REPRESSION AROUND THE COUNTRY

Winter 2004/2005 was again the season of systematic police repression against the anarchist, counter-cultural and human rights activists in Poland: In December 2004, *police attacked a music concert at the ElektroMadonna squat* in Czesochowa without showing a warrant, illegally searched the building without independent witnesses present, detained 15, and filed minor drug charges. The motive for the attack is hypothesised to be anti-war organising at the squat. On 26 January 2005, police in

Krakow violently attacked peaceful protestors *opposing war criminal Putin's presence at the 60th anniversary of the freeing of Auschwitz-Birkenau*, and detained about 28-35. Police suggested they would charge people for insulting a head of state (Article 136 in criminal law), but as of 29.01.2005, only one person remained accused of this; other charges such as assaulting a police officer remain. On 28 January 2005, another attack occurred when *police attacked the Fabryka squat in Warsaw*. They refused to show a warrant or to provide their identity numbers, and they beat up a 5-month pregnant activist. Videos of the Krakow attack and audio files of the Warsaw attack are being widely distributed, calls for the resignation of the police minister Ryszard Kalisz were being made.

ENOUGH OF THE CAPITALISTIC DREAM?

Last year a survey (by PENTOR) said that 43% of society speaks positively and 34% negatively about the times of PRL ("socialist" Poland). The positive voices seem to be based on lack of unemployment, better house access, regular holiday possibilities and more order in the PRL. The same source mentioned that the reality is the main reason for such opinions of people: 60% of the population lives on the edge of poverty and 30% under the so called biological minimum; 10,5 mln. Of people have no work, each third person is under 28 years old; 3 mln of young people have no flats. For that reason people see in PRL-past, at first as the time of social security. *"This is not nostalgia for the old system but for life stability and safe work-place"* comments authors of the survey. *"Nowadays people have just enough of everything, even young people have already lost their illusions"*. But the authors of the survey are stressing as well that more young polish people start to look for the new solutions, while those inspirations are being sought on the global scale.

ROMANIA

THE STATE HAS FAILED AGAIN!

SIBIU. A Romanian thief caught stealing a week after he was released from jail is demanding £200,000 compensation. Danut Mester, 38, from Sibiu, says it is the state's fault he is back inside because they failed to rehabilitate him. He served 13 years for theft but was back inside just a week after he was released, and has now launched a civil claim for damages. Mester claims the robbery he carried out could have been avoided if more effort had been spent on rehabilitation. Mester said: "I am just a victim of the system. I committed anti-social crimes after I was released because the Romanian authorities never helped reintegrate me into society." There is a law obliging local authorities to provide social assistance to released prisoners, and to help them reintegrate into society."

35,000 POSTAL WORKERS BEGIN 10-DAY STRIKE IN ROMANIA

BUCHAREST. Some 35,000 postal workers on Monday began a 10-day strike in Romania to demand higher salaries, paralyzing mail delivery and payments of pensions and child benefits. "We apologize to everyone but please understand that this action is unavoidable," Mariana Kniesner, a senior union leader at the National Trade Union Bloc told Realitatea TV. "The whole Romanian Postal Service is on strike." Postal workers, who earn an average monthly salary of 6.3 million lei (US\$225; 175 euro), are demanding a pay rise of 16 percent. Managers say that they cannot afford the raise and point to the fact that spending at the post office is monitored by a Romanian government agreement with the International Monetary Fund. "We want to resolve this conflict but the salary demands are impossible to meet," said Prime Minister Calin Popescu Tariceanu. He said postal workers would receive a 4 percent pay rise this year. Shortly before the strike began, managers offered employees a 3 percent raise, which the trade union refused. Managers said they would try to get the strike declared illegal in court. (...) The 10-day strike was supposed to halt all mail delivery, money transfers and payments of government pensions, disability and

child benefits handled by Romania's post offices. Bratianu said. Union leaders argue that the Romania Postal Service is profitable, and that their demands would cost an extra US\$8 million (euro 5.9 million) this year. (from AP)

ANARCHISTS IN CRAIOVA PAPERED WHOLE CITY WITH THEIR ANTI-ELECTION POSTERS

In Craiova local anarchists have pasted anarchist/anti-election posters on 80% (more or less) of the election publicity boards. One text on the posters was saying: *"By voting you don't choose a better life for you, but luxury for them. Don't vote! Don't condemn yourself! They lie to you, they rob you, they exploit you, they steal your work, they shut your mouth when you have something to say and they brake your bones when you protest. Self-organisation! The only way to freedom is anarchy!"* - while the second text was saying: *"They lie to you, they mock you, they live in luxury on your work while you have no money to pay your rent or buy food. You can choose to support them, vote for them, even more you can lick their ass and you can dream to become as big a bastard as they are. Don't vote! Don't condemn yourself to a life of hunger and desperation. The solution is anarchy: workers self-organisation without state or bosses!"*

Also in Bacau and Bucharest were pasted posters and stickers against the elections. In Bacau, two persons who were caught putting stickers were given fines and police accused them of terrorism and sent them to court. Judge found the accusations to be not real, rather absurd, but still it is the first time that this actually happens in Romania. I think people in BUM would be happy to hear some solidarity messages, or advice, as the situation is difficult for them at the moment.

RUSSIA

MARIHUANA, POLICE, PROTEST- REALITY AND UPCOMING G8-MEETING IN MOSCOW

Moscow. People who took part in the March say that it up to 300 people had tried to gather there. Anarchists decided to organise support for this important event. Hundreds and thousands of people are jailed in Russia for very ridiculous "crimes", with many of them framed. When the internal migration regime is finally getting more liberal, drug sales and racketeering on drug dealers is becoming a more and more important source of income for the police force. If legalizing grass would not lead to the collapse of the police force once and for all, at least it would be a very serious blow to their finances. Unfortunately, the march was banned and organisers did not come out with an alternative plan. Eventually an alternative plan was made mostly by anarchists during last 24 hours prior to

the protests. It was about leafletting people which gathered at the banned meeting-point in order to get them to an alternative convergence point, not surrounded by police cordons. Eventually, around 3 PM (protest was to start 5 PM) most of the original organisers were already high enough to not be able to plan anything. The anarchist "leafletters" got snatched pretty quickly by OMON forces! So eventually only perhaps 15 anarchists and 15 pot smokers made it to an alternative place, so it was hopeless to go marching, especially when, due to serious tactical mistakes, loudspeaker guy got snatched as well and our only banner got lost. The anarchists thought about doing the usual small anarchist march, but finally they considered the idea too risky. The same march was banned last year as well, when 200 people gathered and more than 60 people got arrested. This year the authorities have not been able to do much harm to anarchists when banning demonstrations, since they pretty much know each other and how to act. However it became apparent, that manoeuvring unknown and inexperienced people in such a repressive situation is almost impossible, at least if they are not really in a mood to go for it.

What we can really do around G8 2006 in Moscow is a good question taking this into account, since it is pretty obvious that anything we try to do will be banned.

UKRAINE

AGAINST THE EXPLOITATION OF THE COASTAL AREA OF ODESSA

On May 17th 2005 a protest by the local organisation "Union of Ukraine Anarchists" was carried out in the centre of Odessa, in "Greece Square". The Ukrainian anarchists demonstrated against the exploitation of the coastal area of Odessa, in Otranta region, by the Greek construction company "Mechanic". The bitter experience from the exploitation of Odessa's seashores has shown that despite all the assurances of local authorities, free entrance in them was prohibited. Now the same could happen with the entire region around the beach. The protest signs were: "Mechanic is the bridgehead of world oligarchy!", "Mechanic out from Odessa", "Otranta for the People", "Hands off our beaches". 96 people participated in the demo. The next protests have been scheduled for May 25th, outside the Odessa Public Prosecutor Office and on 2nd of June outside the Greek embassy. Ukrainian anarchists ask for solidarity in their fight, from the Greek anarchists with protests outside the Mechanic offices in Greece.

"STUDENT PARADE" THROUGH BRNO

On 1st of May 2005, around 300 neo-nazis from Narodni Odpor (National Resistance, biggest nazi group in Czech republic) and their followers marched through the streets of Brno, the second biggest town in Czech Rep.

The media informed about this in a weird way, involving a bunch of disinformation, lies etc. Many other newspapers claimed that the police built double between nazis and antifascists "trying to attack" the march. The group of activists (simply called anarchists or antifascists, in fact a group of people made up of a few anarchists, NGO-activists and Green Party members), were trying just to show some pickets to the march, but were unscrupulously crowded out by police from street next to the path of march some 500 meters, far to places where there was no chance even to see some "danger". There, the group was kept by the City police troops for over an hour in the direct sun, not allowing anyone to leave or just move to the shade to prevent getting sunburnt.

Also marking the protestors as anarchists is strongly schematising. The media likes to sustain in readers and/or listeners the idea of anarchist (mean problematic one, or better an asocial) as anyone standing up against neo-nazism. Does that mean that the common citizen does agree with nazis? Comparing to newspaper publisher's opinion, he or she has to. Otherwise they should mar him or her as a rioter, asocial, anarchist.

Attitude of city council and other bureaucrats was also eluding. OK, the truth is that the march was announced as "student's" and it's arguable whether they had a right or reason to ban it after they got first (official or unofficial) information about the truth. We all know well the passion of repressive elements in banning all the "extreme" actions as soon as possible. But nothing like that happened after first banners of "Narodni odpor" appeared, though NO is signed by Ministry of Home Affairs literally as neo-nazi one. Nothing also happened after a speech where they confessed of feeling being national socialist. But police and council still insist on the march being a "student's one".

Police also claims, that they managed whole action well, though they let a 30-man group of nazis separate from the march and seriously attack and injure three young guys, who were also called anarchists by the media. They were beaten just in the centre and the whole incident was seen - and absolutely ignored - by a group of patrolling policemen.

So for recap, on 1st of May in Brno we could witness an open propagation of Nazism with active support by the police, who violently pushed the small peaceful protest and at least silent tolerance of the city. It's for everyone him or herself to make conclusion out of it.

Ludek Hajek
translated and supplemented
by Frantisek Kusy



ANARCHISTS OUTNUMBERED BY POLICE AND BY "AUTONOMOUS" FASCISTS

MAYDAY IN CZECHIA

This year Maydays events in Czechia were a bit confusing. Nazis announced their march in the city of Brno, so anarchists from Prague basically decided not to do anything in Prague in order that they didn't "steal" people from Brno's counter-rally. Also, the action called Protest-fest took place there during the week

before Mayday, and it was a series of actions against the big Arms Trade "Idet," climaxing in 1000 street parade and free show, a day before Mayday.

Anyway, the next day about 400 nazis with their new "autonomist-nationalist" strategy, stealing antifascist tactics and even graphics!

(The tendency known as well from the other European countries, e.g. from the home town of ABB- AbolishingBB), marched the streets of Brno with virtually no resistance except about 10 people from NGO's and a few anarchists trying to symbolically block their march. They were pushed away quickly, anyway.

On AFA counter-demo less than 100 people came so organizers, hardly repressed and greatly outnumbered by police, decided to cancel it.

MARCHING AGAINST THE CROWD OF THE UNITED COLOURS OF THE POLICE FORCES

ANARCHIST MAYDAY IN MOSCOW, RUSSIA

This year, "unaligned anarchists", Rainbow Keepers, Autonomous Action and whatever else could only bring 40 people to the anarchist mayday march in Moscow. This was apparently because everything was put together very hastily due to other ongoing projects, and many people apparently made a conclusion, that walking around with flags and shouting out for anarchist communism with a few dozen people changes nothing. But they are wrong, aren't they?

The march grouped in the beginning of the Leonteyevskiy side street, where underground anarchists had a good try at blowing up Lenin back in 1919. Intelligence judged that Tverskaya was full of pigs, so soon after passing Moscow municipal council ("city дума") the march walked across the street, and went on marching on the Kamengerskiy side street and Kuznesky most of the way towards Lyubyanka. These streets had way better acoustics, so shouts such as "Death to state, freedom to labour!", "Factories to workers, we will destroy all the power!", "Rubber bullets and tear gas, gift of the president to working masses!", "Freedom to people, death to empires!", "The main enemy is in our own country, the main enemy sits in Kreml!", "No to the

war in Iraq and Chechnya!" and others, sounding as loud as if we were twice the amount.

When we crossed Dmitrovka street, we discovered a horrible failure in our intelligence - 2 busloads of OMON in full riot gear were stationed there, in reserve for many mayday events around the city... but they did not expect us, and were not going to crack our heads without a special command from above, so we just passed them peacefully, shouting "Down with the police state!" Some better-off citizens shouted at us "shame on you!" perhaps they considered we should have assaulted OMON...

Upon arriving to FSB (x-KGB) reception (the same which NRA bombed some years ago), some participants began spraying the building next to it while the rest shouted "Down with the FSB!". Due to many unlucky circumstances, a traffic cop (DPS), not sticking to his own business, managed to grab one person he suspected of spraying. A de-arresting attempt was made, but in a shameful episode anarchists lost a wrestling match with the traffic pigs. They were BIG, FAT and STICKY traffic pigs! But I wonder when we will be able to challenge OMON, if we can not deal even with the DPS? Soon a bunch of FSO

(Federal Guarding Service) thugs ran from the building, pointing at everybody with assault rifles and submachine guns and trashing some heads with night sticks - the march dispersed quickly, although some heroic acts of individual resistance were observed as well. This year's anarchist Mayday march lasted only 20 minutes.

The rest of the evening, we spent in the police station waiting for 9 arrested comrades to be released. Luckily, there was not enough evidence to charge people of "vandalism" (felony of up to 3 years), people were given irrelevant misdemeanours of "participating on an illegal demonstration" or "organising an illegal demonstration" and released the same evening. One of the very few good sides of the Russian pigs is (lack of) their working ethics - unless there is a pressure from above, they really do not give a fuck.

Check for russia.indymedia.org and www.avtonom.org for video and pictures to come. (In St.Petersburg anarchist block was this year a record 150 strong).

Aleksei
Autonomous Action of Moscow

BREAKING THE MYTH OF LEGAL PROTEST AND THE PASSIVITY OF THE WHOLE GENERATION

MAYDAY IN MARIBOR, SLOVENIA

This year we celebrated mayday in Maribor, a city in the north-east of Slovenia. We chose Maribor, because living conditions are the worst compared to other big cities in the country. Most of the capital is centralised into capital city Ljubljana and more and more people are becoming unemployed in small cities every day. About 30.000 people lost their job in this year, mainly in textile and shoe industry (Slovenia has 2 million inhabitants). In about a year or two we will get the euro, and you can imagine what follows...

However, 1. May almost became the day of the European Union (Slovenia became member of EU at 1st may last year), even if most of the people lost the dream about "the promised land". Many celebrations took place on the

night before 1st may, prepared mostly by big syndicates and was nothing but eating and drinking. No resistance, no protests, nothing.

We made our mayday protest on the 2nd of may, because 1st may was sunday and 2nd was also a holiday, but some people had to work. All the big shopping centres were open. So we demanded that the shops closed on a workers' day. We demanded paid vacation for workers and for consumers to stay out of the shops.

There were about 70 people at the protest, which was a sad number for us, if we compare to how many people come to a concert or party... We had a nice sound system, some performances and of course banners, flags... The march was not legally registered, because we don't think that we need to ask the govern-



ment if we can protest against them. There were people from Dostoj (Yabasta), Izbrisani (Erased), some local activists and anarchists.

We started our march at the Square of Freedom, we walked through all the centre and got some support from local inhabitants. But because it was a national holiday, the streets were quite empty. We went symbolically close to Eurocentre (big shopping centre) putting a rope around the parking place, so cars couldn't get into the centre.

Police were all the time stopping us and demanding documents. Some people voluntarily gave their documents, which for us was

not really a smart move. As you all know, capitalism doesn't punish so much with prison sentence, but gives you money penalties. Some years before, you could go to prison if you couldn't / didn't want to pay the money, but now they changed the law and they just take money from your account or you have to work public jobs + go to prison. Of course all these are just for small penalties. So, after the demo, one girl got about 100 euro for being an informal organizer of an illegal protest and other people will probably get penalties for disturbing the traffic.

Police were not even controlling the traffic, but just provoking the protestors. As I already mentioned, there was not much traffic, because it was a holiday and there was just 70 of us. The traffic jam started when police started with provocations and wanted to remove an old guy, who didn't want to get off the street. A small fight with the cops started, with one arrested - an old guy, age 60, member of the group Izbrisani, he was set free after a few hours. Police intended to arrest more people, but due to solidarity between protestors, they couldn't arrest or take documents of more people. One of the protestors had to escape from the group, but came back after one hour, because he got in a one-to-one fight with one policeman. Fortunately, police didn't make any further searches for identity of the protestors and they also didn't use any video cameras. They were quite unprepared and are used to fights like that, because



Maribor has lots of football hooligans. Just to mention that a few weeks ago german hooligans totally destroyed Celje (city near Maribor) and police didn't interfere. This time, they attacked peaceful demonstrations with no real reason.

Media coverage was quite positive for us, even if some journalists were writing stupid stuff like: "angry protestors attacked police...", "they just walked on the streets and police had to get them off the streets to let the traffic pass..."; while some overacted: "police brutally attacked protestors, beating them with sticks...".

At the end, everything turned ok, it was a good experience, which shows us that the reaction of the people and the police in Maribor is much different than in Ljubljana. And how far goes the centralization, since

public police violence like that couldn't happen in Ljubljana (for political reasons of course). It also shows us that we have to break the myth of legal protests in which people are allowed just to stay in one square, all further movement is forbidden.

But it's not just the government, which is oppressing us and wants to stop our struggle, we see the problem also in the passivity of the people in our scene. There are so many people, who have great ideas and critical minds, but they just stay passive. I guess it's the capitalist way of life in which there is no interacting, cooperation, no solidarity. Just school/job, home (computer) and party. In Ljubljana, for example, there can be about 200 people going to punk concerts, but less than 10 going to a protest. But it's not just the punk scene, it's a wider problem. And we really ask ourselves, if there is a point in making a protest with just 50 people. Or maybe we must concentrate on small actions in which 10 people is enough.

It's sad that I have to end the article like this, but I think we must share the bad things too, not just the good ones. And I really hope that next time I can say that things got better. Until then, take care and never stop fighting for a better world! In solidarity,

Anti-Fascist Action Ljubljana

"NO PEACE WITH SLAVERY, NO AGREEMENT WITH WAR!", "THE MAIN ENEMY IS IN OUR OWN COUNTRY, THE MAIN ENEMY SITS IN KREMLIN!", AS WELL AS ... "IT IS NOT EGGS WHO PAINT PEOPLE, BUT PEOPLE WHO PAINT EGGS"

SUMMARY OF ANARCHIST MAYDAY ACTIONS IN RUSSIA

In Sosnoviy Bor of Leningrad Region, local anarchists joined a red demonstration and meeting. Anarchists raised a red and black flag, and distributed leaflets and *Situatsiya*-tabloid. During a speech of a local leader of Rodina (Motherland)-party anarchists went shouting "fascist!" with some other internationalists, cops were not very happy about this. But eventually nobody got arrested anyway.

In Penza some 20 anarchists joined the red demonstration. Anarchists had one banner but no flags. Altogether it was some 300-400 people in the demonstration. Anarchists shouted "Today with leaflets, tomorrow with rifles!", "Fascism won't trespass!", "Nashism won't trespass!" ("Nashi" is name of new pro-Putin storm trooper organization funded by Kremlin, which has organized violent attacks against some oppositional youth organizations), "Liberty or death!" and "Revolution!".

In Kazan, 4 members of Alliance of Kazan Anarchists visited both, the meeting of official trade-unions and the red meeting. A special issue of "Kazan anarchist" was distributed, as well as leaflets "How not to get infected with fascism" and against government plans to curb deferment and exemption from

military service.

In Irkutsk, some 50 anarchists joined the red meeting at Sport Palace. Leaflets were distributed and speeches were made by anarchists. Local bolsheviks did not let anarchists near the microphone. After the demonstration, anarchists went to the grave of Nestor Kalandarishvili, a legendary partisan and anarchist of the civil war era, where both Chicago and Siberian anarchists of the past were commemorated.

In Nizhni Novgorod, anarchist press was distributed in a red meeting in Minin square. Altogether there were some 300 people in the meeting.

In Krasnodar, anti-authoritarians ("unaligned" anarchists and communists, *Autonomous Action*, left-communist *Toskhod*-group and *Federation of Anarcho-Communists*) had a Common demonstration of some 30 people. Participants carried banners "There will always be a revolution", "Trash nationalism", "Down with the power of corporations", "Down with the police state" and carried a red and black flag. Demonstrators screamed "Fascism won't trespass!", "Our enemy is not in Chechnya, our enemy is in Kremlin!",

"Freedom! Anarchy! Communism!" sang Internationals and Varshavyanka. There were no arrests.

In Omsk, the local section of *Siberian Confederation of Labour SKT* joined mayday demonstration of trade unions. Red demonstration was to take place later on. SKT had 9 red and black flags, and one flag of its member organization air dispatchers' union. *Motherland-party* joined meeting as well; ruling party "United Russia" was officially not part of the meeting. SKT members distributed its paper "Syndicalist", as well as brochure of local anarchists "Antifa-Action". After meeting, syndicalists had a movie screening of "Bread and Roses" by Ken Loach.

In Petrozavodsk, a meeting of the opposition gathered up to 2000 people. Anarchists and members of "Anti-fascist Initiative" were 10 people, with 2 black flags and banners "Irak - Palestine - Chechnya! Fraternity - Freedom - Spring!" and "No peace with slavery, no agreement with war". Unknown people dropped a banner from the building next to the square with the text "Fuck the power war and misery".

In Novosibirsk creative youth organized

already a second "Monstration", with up to 200 participants. They had banners "Shame on you, Vasya", "Wash yourselves", "I won't be Tsol anymore", "It is not eggs who paint people, but people who paint eggs", "Magnet-girl lived in the metro 8 years!" and others. One participant of the monstration had a placate with a photograph of vice-chief of local police, lieutenant Yuri Pimenov, with a jerky expression on his face, and with the text "Everybody is free!". He, together with a friend chained to him, was taken to the police station where they spent 4 hours. They were accused of the organization of an illegal meeting. The rest of the monstration headed to general oppositional meeting, which gathered some 3000 people. (For better understanding of this "new Mayday tradition" in Novosibirsk we are reprinting here the fragments of the Monstration 2004 - ABB):

*"Wild rumours about artistic association 'SAT' bounced back and forth in the city well before the action, which caused coppers to go overdrive. Mainstream media wrote: 'Novosibirsk antiglobalists are planning to demonstrate with anti-social and deeply beside the point banners'. When the very first participants of the Monstration showed up at 9.30, they were immediately surrounded by a bunch of gopniks in uniform, demanding the giving up of banners, since they were 'anti-social', even when these were not even unrolled yet. Cops had one banner unrolled, revealing a shocking demand 'Tanya do not cry'. 'That's it, an anti-social slogan, give it up!'. (...) Eventually some 100 people joined Monstration, the third time around coppers managed to steal some banners. Those which remained stated 'Something like that', 'Where am I?' 'Siberia is JaMAYca', 'I am broke', 'Make love, not work', there was also a banner without text, all red with white columns. Placates included 'Forward', 'Closed', 'I am against', 'I am for' and 'del *.*'. A portrait of Salvador Dali was proudly carried. The march went to Lenin square, coppers came with force and surrounded participants of Monstration. No-one was planning to stay in the boring meeting, but cops annoyed people - in the case that all the rest are allowed to stay, why shouldn't we? Participants told coppers that they would not go anywhere. Cops got violent, and eventually people left the square. Jounos were threatened by cops. Soon people found out, that a couple of people were arrested during the march. People headed to the police station, a support group stood by the*

entrance, which annoyed cops. Soon the first of the arrested was let free, he said that no-one was beaten and that the cops were calm. They just asked what does banners 'Monstration' and 'Y-Y-Y-t' mean. When they were told that these banners mean nothing, coppers got surprised - 'But they are anti-globalist banners - how come they mean nothing!'. Everyone was let go after 3 hours, after subscribing a statement: 'Our banners did not demand the overthrowing of the constitutional order of Russia'.

(Yet back to Mayday 2005) In Voronezh, official trade unions and reds marched together from Victory square to Lenin square. Anarchists blocked together with human rights activists. Press and leaflets were distributed. The statue of Lenin was decorated with a banner 'We destroy vertical of power', but it stayed in place only 2 minutes. After the demonstration a group of boneheads assaulted young leftists.

In Murmansk, the red meeting gathered up to 3000 people. Anarchists were 30, and they scanned revolutionary and anti-fascist slogans. Nothing special happened.

In Naberezhnye Chelny of Tatarstan, anarchists attempted to legalize a picket with little success. Already half an hour prior to announced beginning, 40 cops gathered at the meeting point. The person who filed the announcement for the picket was immediately arrested, and taken to the local police station with some other activists. Juveniles were let go after a couple of hours. One person was accused of 'illegal picketing' and 'distributing unregistered media'. The court only gave a caution to the organiser, who had to spend whole evening, night and morning in the police station.

In St. Petersburg, anarchists gathered at 10 AM in the convergence point of the general oppositional march called by 'Committee of Common Action' KED, an umbrella organization which mostly consists of authoritarians. Anarchist block was agreed with KED, but when around 50 anarchists moved from the gathering point towards Nevskiy Prospekt, they were surrounded by OMON in full riot gear and pushed brutally to the sidewalk. Around 30 people were surrounded by OMON, another 50 were outside the encirclement, supporting those encircled. People shouted 'Shame on you!' 'Down with the police state!', 'Freedom', 'Leave us to Nevskiy!'. Anarchists were held for a long time, all other blocks moved far in Nevskiy and even clear-

ing machines following them were moving on. But surprisingly OMON gave up the encirclement, and anarchists were left to catch the others - at this point the anarchist block numbered 150 people. People shouted 'No to fascism!', 'Main enemy is in our own country, main enemy sits in Kremlin!', 'Antifa!', 'Freedom to people, death to empires!' and others. The block had banners 'Lust of freedom is stronger than any prison', 'Peace to people, war to power', 'Take the streets, reclaim the city' and others. Black block caught the queue. But eventually those in the back of the demonstration (anarchists and other 'more radical' youthful groups) were not let through to the Palace Square in front of the Winter Palace. People from this group were only let through to the square without flags and banners. Some fulfilled these orders, but some 50 people stayed in the new encirclement during around one hour. This time, the official meeting in the square was finished and the main crowd began to disperse. Encircled people used the occasion, broke through to the square and lighted a number of sea torches. An unofficial meeting against the police despotism was organized, where everybody could talk on open mic (which was exactly speaking on a loudspeaker). People decided to organize an illegal demonstration to Italienskaya Street, headquarters of 5th TV channel in order to combat media blackout of police despotism witnessed during the day. Actually, this was also planned in prior by Pyotr Alekseyev Resistance Movement, a group which claims to follow Maximalist tradition, but is also mixing a number of other anti-authoritarian and authoritarian ideas (you may know this 'Pyotr Alekseyev' better by his surname, Kropotkin). An illegal, spirited march went on to Italienskaya Street, only few cops were spotted at this point - apparently they had already gone for their mayday booze. Another illegal meeting was organized in Italienskaya Street, but people failed to get to TV anyway.

Reports collected by Aleksander (St. Petersburg Anarchist League, ADA-IFA), except St. Petersburg by Uliana Lesnaya and Moscow by Aleksei. Translated and edited by Aleksei (Autonomous Action of Moscow)



TIME TO SHAKE NATIONALIST BELIEFS TO THE GROUND

INTERVIEW WITH RADIO FM 103 IN PRISTINA, KOSOVO

*GIVING THE PEOPLE FRESH INSPIRATIONS AS AN ALTERNATIVE
TO OMNIPOTENT NATIONALIST PROPAGANDA*



We are very glad to be able to bring you some positive news from the region of Kosovo in this issue of AbolishingBB. In the past we have printed reports about social outbursts in the region (see ABB#16) that were used by the local nationalist elites for their propaganda of hate and segregation. In this edition you can read about some projects and initiatives that are very resistant against the nationalist trends – the fresh wind of social projects in post-war Kosovo. We start with an interview made by our Balkan correspondent Barbara with the alternative Radio-station Radio FM 103 in Pristina. The next one is an archival report (which we have been waiting for for a very long time) about the Road of Peace action. This spectacular action took place in September 2002 but as it was hardly reported anywhere we are sure it is still worth printing. Because of its partly “illegal” character we decided to not print the full names of the participants of that project (although they were placed in the original version sent to us). And finally, please also check the “Announcements” section of this issue of ABB to find a call for solidarity with the newly opened, and first in history, anarchist centre in Kosovo!

(AbolishingBB)

The following is an interview with Radio FM 103 in Pristina, a project that I bumped into while travelling. A project worth writing about because, as far as I know, it is the only project in the whole of Kosovo that has taken on the job in making alternative music known there.

Can you tell me the story how your Radio came into existence?

R: It all started in the year 2000. It was two months after the war. We were three/four friends who were sitting together in a Cafe talking. After the bombing we thought we must start something new. Then the idea came about the radio.

In the beginning, after the war, most of the projects were out of consideration for getting support from the NGO's, only if you had a guarantee that you know the people or the other organizations here. So if you were just somebody that came up with a good idea, it was almost impossible to get donations. All right, so what we did was, we wrote down a concept of our project, the ideas that we had about our future Radio station. It was 15 pages long. Then after 5 months we got 10000 Dollars for (the much needed) equipment; computer, microphones, minidisks.... At first it was very hard to get the frequencies, but then we got 2 hours airtime permission on another national channel. One main person was taking care all the time, carrying the responsibility.

What happened after that?

R: For seven months we did shows on this public radio station. There were programs like the “voice of the people”, one called “Chaos”, “Reality from the streets”. After this period we got permission for our own 24-hour frequencies. Now we are 5 to 6 people. But you know there were always kids coming and helping with interviews etc. To sum it up our program is not to exclude any music except commercial stuff, but that strictly. So its techno, hip-hop, drum und base, crossover, punk, alternative, trance, ethno etc..

Did you sometimes have problems in the past with people who did not like you, or what you said on the radio? I have a feeling that although you seem to be open for different opinions you are still going in the direction you want: a freer Kosovo and different varieties of society.

R: Yes, the actual thing of the radio was not to go for the masses, and actually go out of this ideology. We also had problems because of the language we speak on the radio (Albanian). We are making almost no censorship, especially

after 12.009 night show.

The one thing that's interesting here is that all the people who work on the Radio don't get money for it.

R: They do the Radio because they think young people here should have an other input.

How did you get this house?

R: The house is rented, the money for which is now from donations. Part of the project itself is saving money to run it. Most goes to rent, some for new equipment. And we are always, always out of money.

What kind of different shows or documentaries do you have?

R: Mainly the music show, you know like talking about some special artist etc. Then “the voice of the people”, which is questioning the people in the streets about some actual topic and a couple of shows like “news”, but not news like the kind of reading the news and talking, joking more about it.

I wonder where you get all your music as you really have a lot of different stuff, newer music.

R: Mainly we get it from the internet. And also from a lot of people who came here and left their music, etc. Some years ago there were better websites to download.

I've already been told about young people coming to the Radio sometimes, bringing their own music and enthusiasm, and doing their own short shows. How do they get here?

R: Yes, last time we did it through a programme called “the question of the day”. Now we have a program about teenagers every Saturday afternoon. And of course our flyers.

So if there is a new band, lets say from Kosovo, or maybe from some surrounding country, how do you get in touch with them? Or do they call?

R: It's always somebody who knows somebody who knows somebody.

Would you say there is a living scene, local bands etc: people who make music and people who support the music?

R: Here there is not so much culture. You can say that there is a lot of music made, but its lots of shit music. Crap pop just to make money. It's mostly about looking super good, nothing more.

So, can the music be the solution?

R: The people here have to fight to get their

minds not (too) full of the things that happened during the war. Imagine if we could flood these minds situated between two ears with the most beautiful, powerful music with a tremendous message. Just think if there were enough young people with new ideas to fill their lives. Mainly listening to some good sounds rather than to that that nationalist leaders tell from generation to the next.

The major problem for the people is to deal with what happened in the past few years.

What if young people would take up some new identity from music movements that exist in the various places all over? The music created by people that have dedicated themselves to find some tune that can help against bad experiences, created by bands somewhere on the globe that shake nationalist beliefs to the ground.

This is what the UN-troops standing around cannot achieve, the music might be able to: people whose minds that are caught up

with what happened over and over can for a short while jump out of their frame of normal life. A big concert might be more important to deal with a dreadful emotional situation than a high-on-energy band music scene which might be strong enough to face power politics.

In the end I want to say thank you very much Radio Pristina - you are really taking a stand and in a really practical way helping to transform Kosovo for better days.

ROAD OF PEACE

"THE IDEA WAS TO USE THE TRAIN, THE TRAIN THAT ONCE DEPORTED PEOPLE AS REFUGEES FROM PRISTHINA TO SKOPJE, IN A DIFFERENT POSITIVE WAY (...) IT'S A GREAT CHANCE TO CROSS THE BORDERS OF LANGUAGE AND RELIGION AND CREATE A CONNECTION BETWEEN THE PEOPLE IN A NEW REVOLUTIONARY WAY" - OCTOBER 17, 2002

Hi everybody!

Finally I found some time to write about the Project "Road of Peace" which happened on a train in Kosovo during the last weeks. (...) Before I left Kosovo one week ago I played and danced at the party of my life. It was really an experience and I have never been so excited and scared before a party. But we survived it!

The project was called the Road of Peace, or just the Love-train and Radio Urban FM from Prishtina was organizing it, with financial support of the English office. The idea was to use the train, the train that once deported people as refugees from Prishtina to Skopje, in a different positive way. The idea was also to show that people from different ethnic groups, Albanians, Roma, Serbians, and Macedonians can do something together in a peaceful way. So Urban FM invited Drum'n'Bass and House DJs from Belgrad and Zagreb, a Live-Act Mi2Moon from Skopje, they had their own crew of Tekhouse DJs and they invited me for live set as I was still hanging around in Prishtina. First they wanted to make two trains on one weekend but they had to split it as it was too dangerous to go to Leshak on September 22, because some nationalists had announced a Serbian come back to Kosovo on that weekend.

I think this story sounds very strange (...) it feels so absurd to think and explain it, like a wild-west movie and it feels already so far away. I also hate to use all this terms like "the Albanians" and "the Serbians", its making communication and prejudices much worse, but under the circumstances, in Kosovo, you risk your life if you are not aware of it (...)

The first train happened on 20 September, driving slowly at 25 km per hour from Prishtina to the border of Macedonia (and back) and the second one was on the 5th Oktober to the border of Serbia (and back). I took the orient express shuttle with my van to pick up my good old friends (...)

On Thursday O. came with me. He has no passport, so I told the French KFOR, he is from Spain and they let us pass the bridge (...) It was really exciting as everybody said you cannot bring an Albanian to the northern part of the town (...) Second night I came

with T. to pick up the DJs. She has collected several UNMIK passports to be able to pass the bridges from both sides.

The Love-train in Prishtina consisted of three open-air wagons covered and decorated with plastic and paintings and it had an alien mask and wings on the front. It started in Fush-Kosova / Kosovo-Polje where the battle between the Serbs and the Turks once was. There a lot of guys from the local Roma community joined the train. At the small Prishtina station the people from Serbian enclaves came on the train. We (some women from different cities and countries) lit some candles and laid down some flowers before the train left on its trip. I opened with the Hey Venus No-more-war-pigs samples (stolen from Black Sabbath) and the words of Liz Shropshire and played an almost three hour live set, as it took so long to get the record-players going smoothly and not jumping all the time (...) I was happy that my friends M. & I. from Belgrade were on the train too. It was like a dream as they could never come with us on the Playground Tour or Crossing Bridges Festival as it seemed too dangerous. They do fire shows and produce music and (what's more important in this context) have been involved in the resistance against Milosevic before and during the war. It was good that they could meet N., a good friend of mine, who has lost her mother and sister during the massacre and did not want to do anything with Serbs anymore. I think it was a very interesting experience for all of them. On the one side, M. & I. met the people they had been fighting and got arrested for and on the other side, N. could meet real people to talk to and not to have all the time horror images in the head, and prejudices that all Serbs have been murderers and supported the system.

Playing and dancing on a driving train is really great, the wind blows in your hair, the landscape passes by, it's a natural animation film, you fly along past destroyed burnt out houses and villages, horses and cows looking stupid at you in the fields, dancing children, surprised adults, mountains, rivers... O. from Urban FM had brought his mother who had train paranoia since she was one of the people

deported on THAT train to Macedonia. It was really inspiring to remember that once in 1945 my grandmother came with her little baby which was my father, on a refugee train from Troppau or Opava in today's Czech Republic to West Germany. I really had the feeling that I played in the mission of my dead grandmother(s) and that I spent her money well in crossing the bridges to participate on this event. I felt so much sense in making music and about the party-scene in general. It's a great possibility to cross the borders of language and religion and creates a connection between the people in a new revolutionary way. Of course lots of people in Kosovo don't want to have something like this happening, as they are still suffering from their war traumas and are full of depression and hate. It might look too early to do something like this only 3 years after the war. But for a lot of frustrated young people and a frozen political situation, it was necessary to let this train happen. Kosovo only can get an autonomous state (and the people passports) if they can prove that they function as a multi cultural society, different communities living together and respecting the human rights.

We had KFOR and UNMIK protection all along the trip to prevent that people throwing stones or shooting or what else.... We finally did a stop at the last town before the Macedonian border. Some people got off the train to drink coffee and to buy some food. I met a Bavarian policeman who was very nervous as the train was a public thing and they were afraid that something would happen. Most onlookers in that town looked peacefully and curious - only one guy stressed around a little bit. And there were a lot of kids who wanted to come on the train... The UNMIK-Police told us to hurry up and so a longer party at the train station wasn't possible. (...)

The second train two weeks later took place under much more stressed conditions. The Road of Peace got a very public thing in the Media. The innocence was gone. The first train got a lot of positive feedback from Belgrade people and B92 radio-station; they even published DJ Phase Diary on the daily internet news. But there were also a lot of threats and mistrust from the Albanian com-

munity. People at Urban FM got bad mails and were called traitors. A lot of people were afraid to come on the second train as they got into trouble caused by their own community, neighbours, friends... The after hour couldn't take place anymore at Megahertz as they got into problems. C. and S. and their friends in Peje also had to suffer lots of rumours. They were shown on TV on "that Serbs train" and they are quite public people in Kosovo, so lots of people know them. So they couldn't show up for the second train and C. was thinking to make a public statement at Dugajini TV in Peje. Later he decided not to do so, as its making rumours much more real. Some Urban FM DJs got threats via mails that they are going to be beaten if they show up again in Gjakovo to play.... This time Urban FM did not do a press- conference, but also no statements about the more political side of the whole thing aside of the straight Lets Come together and party philosophy. They said they wanted to talk about it after the second train happened.

The route of the second train was more risky as we were going through Mitrovice South and North and the Serbian parts of

Kosovo. So this time we had lost our innocence. Everybody was much more afraid or under pressure. There was also undercover KFOR on the train and TMK (former UCK!) people who liked the idea for our protection. The DJs were playing in the closed train wagons that didn't jump so much on the railways. I had low energy and was more afraid about the second train. It was a great motivation for me when already Thursday evening E. and M. arrived from Skopje at Urban FM to play on the train again. On Friday I played a live-set at Black Lady in Mitrovice North. The Gig was organized by L. from Luna Park, a band who we met on the Crossing Bridges Tour one year before when we played music and made childrens workshops in Mitrovice South and North. There I also met with DJ Phase and his wife, DJ Broka, and Z. to bring them to Prishtina.

The second train was a real public happening, as Michael Steiner (the international head or Mr UN Important of Kosovo) showed up at the train station in Prishtina to inspect the train and say some positive words in front of the Media. This time Urban Fm didn't let all the TV tget on the train like what took

place on the first train. Again we lit candles and put flowers around before we left, a girl group ritual, to respect the victims of the war and to protect the train (and to remember that all wars men are fighting are about territories and women). We started with less people from Prishtina but the ones who came really wanted to party. The stop in Mitrovice South didn't happen because the KFOR judged it far too risky, but two stops in the north of Kosovo, Leposavic and Leshak, and lots of people came on the train. (...)

The railway went going along the street so we had direct contact with our KFOR protection troop, driving alongside with cars and vans. It was so funny to watch the Pakistan KFOR in blue uniforms who were hanging out of their car, grooving and having a lot of fun! In Leshak I met (...) one very drunken man, in paramilitary uniform, looking like a real bad guy. He drunk all my red wine but didn't want to smoke from the spliffs (because he was "at work"). (...) C.

MORE UNNOTICED NEWS - MORE UNNOTICED NEWS

BULGARIA

MINERS DEMONSTRATE

The demonstration of the miners from Electric central "Bobov dol" on 27.04.2005, begun at 11 o'clock in the morning. The meeting point was at the center of Sofia, near the national stadium. The protest march began late because the policemen, who were numerous, banned the miners from driving the 3 tones of coal that they had planned to put in front of the Agency of privatisation. The police shouted on a megaphone that this action would not be allowed because the workers could start to smash cars and to break the windows of the Agency. The miners were really angry by the words of the police. Before the protest, the workers had many times warned what this action would involve and that the protest would be peaceful. Lead by the police cars, the protest march of 1200-1300 miners went through one central boulevard. People shouted justice slogans for their right of work and against the privatisation of their mine factory. From the privatisation of this factory, the consultant received 5 000 000 euros and the situation of the miners from this factory is not clear. The winner from the competing companies is "Credit Swiss First Boston" and under privatisation are also similar factories in the towns of Varna and Rousse. Privatisation of all these factories was declared on 1.12.2004, without any strategy or regulatory cadre, which is obligatory when the question refers to energy producing.

The protest reached the offices where the beaurocracy of the Agency, stressed by the situation, took pictures from the windows, however not one of them had the courage to come outside to the wor-

kers. There were metal barriers which police did not let anyone cross, even a photographer from Bulgarian National Television. The people threw on the ground coal, in front of the barrier, shouting "Mafia!", as well as other slogans to the police, stating that the cops shouldn't forget that the miners are actually the ones paying their salaries. In the protest there were many women, some people said that they were the partners of the miners.

The police barricaded strongly the exit of the street to another central boulevard.

At the end came some of the "leaders" of "our favourite syndicates", who took immediately the megaphones to state clearly how they help workers and how much justice exists in the mine workers' wishes.....

WORKERS SUICIDE

The situation in Bulgaria is getting worse every day. The factories were closed years before the joining(annexion) of the country to the European union. One of the big newspapers in Bulgaria, "24 hours", which is the property of the german concern "WAZ", informs in its issue from 16.05 about a bulgarian worker who committed suicide in protest against the diminution of the state program "From social help to business" and against the policy towards workless people in Bulgaria.

The 52 years old Nikolay Stoyanov from the town of Mizia(northwestern Bulgaria), left a letter in this spirit and cut his veins with a knife. He worked in a paper factory, but because of its privatisation, he was thrown out of the work force. After some months of working in the mentioned state program, he lost

even this work, and he started to live in misery.

After this, the press published several more articles about some other similar cases in which other workers took their own lives for similar reasons.

ROMANIA

HOMOPHOBIC PAEDOPHILES?

On the 23-29 May in Bucharest takes place Gay Fest 2005 (www.accept-romania.ro). Last Saturday the city hall banned the Gay Parade. One of the reasons given was that it is a high risk demo and that at least 50 cops would be needed for it... and because on the same day there is a football game, they did not allow this parade to take place. At the same time the fascists already announced a counter-demo on the same day and made a big campaign against this festival. They used slogans like "no to homosexuality - yes to normality"... In Timisoara fascists put up posters with the message: 'Romania needs children not gays' (is this a reference that fascists in Romania are homophobic paedophiles?). 2 Antifa people putting up posters for another event saw the posters, and started to rip them off. They were then were attacked by 5 Nazis. The fight was short, and the Nazis ran away, one of them with a broken nose. The libertarian activists organized together to tear down all the homophobic posters the whole night.



Storming of Parliament

In countries like Kyrgyzstan, often only the inhabitants and direct neighbours attention is drawn towards lessons of destabilisation. It is not until certain "destabilisation factors" occur in the form of riots, insurrections, lootings etc. that wider attention is piqued. Whatever situations that earlier occurred, for example: military dictatorship, parliamentary democracy or civil war, have not had much affect on public opinion, or politicians of eastern and western powers because its all just part of the capitalistic logic and its status quo. Not unless acts of rebellion, violently challenging authority or general unlawful behaviour occurs. And here we are.... Let's admit - until March we also didn't know much about Kyrgyzstan. As the tension within the country built, there was an attempt from anarchists from Kazakhstan to enter neighbouring territory, however they were successful only recently, and we are still waiting their eventual reports. Since then, we have been carefully following all the available media news sources concerning Krgyzstan. The following article was written mainly from material found on NGO site www.iwpr.net. Meanwhile, the situation there has cooled down, however certainly as the third revolution in ex-soviet republic (after Georgia in 2003, and Ukraine last year) it is worth covering. Especially as the story isn't finished and another has just begun in neighbouring Uzbekistan....

AbolishingBB

POPULAR LESSONS OF DESTABILISATION FROM KYRGYZYSTAN

HISTORY

Nomadic Kyrgyz tribes settled in the territory today known as Kyrgyzstan during 15-16th century. Since the 12th century Islam became the predominant religion in the whole region. In the early 19th century southern parts of the country came under the control of Kokand's Khanate, however the Russian empire occupied it and formally annexed in 1876. Occupation instigated many revolts, creating suppression as in 1916 during the big anti-tsarist rebellion in the whole of Central Asia. In response, many Kyrgyz (as well as other Central Asian people), fled to Afghanistan or China, not the least of which to avoid military draft imposed by Russians.

Soviet power established itself here in 1918, and in 1936 Kyrgyz Soviet Socialist Republic was established as the full Union republic of USSR. Similar to other parts of SU economic and social standards increased, alphabetism was fought, and a wave of industrialization started. As in other republics, many aspects of traditional Kyrgyz culture was preserved, yet nationalistic elements suppressed.

Perestroika came here a bit later than in European parts of USSR - slowly in the early '90's the liberalization of press started and the first unofficial political parties emerged. In the summer of 1990 there were major clashes between Kyrgyz and Uzbeks in the southern region of Osh (where Uzbeks are majority) suppressed by army and police. In October 1990 Askar Akayev of Kyrgyzstan Democratic Movement (KDM) was elected as president, liberal reforms sped up and a few months later the name of the capital city was changed back from Frunze (after Bolshevik general) to the old and more sympathetic one-Bishkek (kyrgyz word for one of the ingredients to make national drink kumis-fermented horse's milk).

Economic realities kept however until now strong ties and actual dependency to Moscow (in 1990 some 98% of exports went to other parts of Soviet Russia). Mostly agricultural trades occurred, only in recent years has Kyrgyzstan developed trade relations concerning various metals and minerals with other countries-mainly with China and Germany. Despite the autocratic rule of Akayev, prisons are overcrowded with supposed or actual opposition, the visible discontent of the population and some bloodily suppressed protests-like in March 2002 in southern Aksy, where 5 of the protestors against the arrest of the opposition politician got killed by cops-all these years situation in Kyrgyzstan has seemed very "quiet and stabile" when compared to neighbouring Uzbekistan or Tajikistan. Facing poverty and hunger, thousands went back to pre-industrial activities such as hunting (of course "illegal") or dangerously digging coal or other minerals in abandoned shafts. Even bigger numbers attempted or actually emigrated to the West.

Mainly with the help of local agencies, which for the amount of about 3000 \$ are able to provide an invitation letter and visa to Britain "in order to study". What is most important in our world's reality: whatever its actual population was thinking, Kyrgyzstan "seemed alright" to Russia, as well as to USA, which from their "Ganci US Airbase" established in 2002 near Bishkek, lead its attacks on Afghanistan and Iraq.

SPRING TENSIONS IN THE PROVINCE

Already months prior to the parliamentary elections set up for 27th February authorities started to prepare for trouble. Police forces received special anti-disturbance training and new decrees demanding registration of protests (with times, number of expected participants and route) 10 days before each event, was issued. Officials said: "We are against the methods of force used by a number of radically-minded individuals imposing their will on others, whose unjustified actions damage stability, disorient citizens and create tensions in social and political situation".

Small demonstrations started at the beginning of February demanding free elections. They were organized by groups like Coalition for Fair Elections. Some - like NGOs - sponsored a meeting in Osh had been banned by police. Number of Islamists from Hizb-u-Tahrir leafletting for an election boycott got arrested.

Following the defeat of Moscow-backed politicians in Ukraine a few months before and in Georgia 2003 elections, Russia watched carefully these events. However, other than in these places, in Kyrgyzstan, even most of the oppositional forces seemed loyal to its big, post-Soviet Brother. Around the 21 February wide protests spread around the country-scary enough for state, even in rural regions occurring due to the regime revoking the registration of numerous local candidates through ridiculous accusations, in order to secure victory for its own favourites. In some places, through road blockades or occupations of official buildings, protestors forced authorities to allow disqualified candidates. In Kochkor 4000 people blocked the main highway with trucks, built tents and organized meals or other infrastructure, getting prepared for long protests. Sensing popular mood, the region's



Protestors in Osh

local governor jumped through the fence of his residence and drove off with his car. "Folks couldn't catch up with him..." reported locals. Everybody was surprised how fast the protests spread and how spontaneous they were - lots of women, old people and children had been among them. On February 22 electricity was cut in Independent Printing House (which is anyway US-founded...) in Bishkek, where most of opposition papers had been printed, yet they continued working with generators. On the 24th the state closed "Azzatyk", kyrgyz service of Radio Free Europe and interior ministry placed police on high alert for an indefinite period of time.

On the 27th February first round of elections; only 31 seats in the 75-member parliament was decided - 13 of them from pro-government political parties and 18 "independents", most of which however were known yet as supporters of Akayev. At the same time; even many of the opposition figures, which prior to that had already been parliament members, got kicked out. This made it clear, that it was just bribery. For example in the Naryn region, voters had been bought with "hot meals, sea of vodka, 300 soms (ca. 7 \$) per person and free taxi-shuttle to the election locals". A disappointed opposition took in mass to the streets, carrying placards with "People who sell themselves for vodka have no future!" or "People's conscience can't be bought!". The city however was crowded with drunken voters, which shared the opinion stated by one them, that "Few dollars is not to be sneezed at...". Second round of election was appointed for March 13.

In general female would-be politicians and women activists got extremely pissed off, as only 3 women (among them Sharipa Sadybakasova, head of Kyrgyzstan Bank and... daughter of president, Bernmet Akayeva) had even a chance to fight for seats in the 75-person parliament. In the country there are many strong women figures in so-called "civil society" spheres, but not in administration." According to Central Asian traditions, women had been long considered second-class citizens. This was only strengthened later through soviet belief that women should not get involved in politics"-noted Viktoria Tian from women's group Sezim Crisis Centre. Apart from this many women candidates simply lost, because the registration fee was too expensive and the population preferred to support men.

Disturbances continued with greater force. On March 1st a few hundred strong crowds blockaded roads in Osh and Karasu. On March 3rd, a grenade was thrown at, the empty at the time, apartment of famous opposition women Roza Otunbaeva. As usual, the government denied responsibility.

100 people occupied governmental buildings in Jalalabad on March 4, kicking out officials and throwing portraits of Akayev through the windows. They demanded resignation of Akayev and his local leaders. Crowds of protesters outside of the building swelled to 5 000 in the following days. There were minor clashes between them and pro-government demonstrators. On the 10th demonstrators took hostage of the state TV staff which came from Bishkek, however police freed them after a few hours.

In the Suzak region, the court cancelled the election result of the winning candidate on



Akayev's book burned in Osh

the grounds of his Uzbek citizenship, in response the judge was severely beaten up.

On March 10th the opposition People's Movement of Kyrgyzstan (PMK) created the "Coordination Council of People's Unity", which was supposed to coordinate protests around the country. Akayev called out to the population to stand up against "provocateurs". The local office of International Organisation for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE) - a tool of EU and WTO - with its head Markus Muller stated that the "freedom of assembly does not extend to blocking roads and storming government buildings" revealing their nightmares so typical of every neo-liberal on this planet.

The second round of elections on 13th March showed up results unsatisfying most of the opposition: only 5 of 75 parliamentarians were clearly linked to them. Generally half of the new members are former businessmen, the rest come from various governmental posts. Among the so-called "independents" is the son of president, Aidar, and Bernmet, his daughter. Only 3 women in parliament, even less than in previous government.

On March 15 in Jalalabad, opposition, which still occupied governmental building launched "kurultay"-general assembly. About 10 000 attend and decide that Akayev has to go. Demonstrators form their own militia preparing for confrontations and plan to organize countrywide "kurultay" at the end of March.

In other places protests go on too, demanding cancellation of election results: crowds seize governmental buildings in Uzgen and in Talas, highways are blockaded in Osh and Alai.

At midday March 18, people protesting since 2 weeks outside governor's office in Osh, finally stormed the building. Police presence was heavy, yet they didn't react - in fact some had been even sympathetic to protesters. Many of the demonstrators had been Uzbek, which proved that discontent with was shared also by many of the so-called minorities: prior to that time the government often accused the opposition of "racial instigation" and believed in loyalty of its minorities. The southern region is also poorer than the north and its opposition had been thought of as weaker. In Osh, protesters seemed to cooperate closer with police: at each floor of an occupied building, a cop was stationed, as "law and order must be upheld" in the words of local opposition's politician. On March 19 "kurultay" had been held there too.

At dawn of March 20 riot police and soldiers stormed occupied buildings in Osh and Jalalabad. Sleeping people were heavily bea-

ten up, over 80 arrested, however some cops also got injured, one of them by a molotov. Within 3 hours in Jalalabad, a crowd of some 40 000, including many villagers gathered armed with sticks and stones. At 1 pm the governmental building was already recaptured, however the crowd continued: police headquarters were attacked with Molotov's and stones, - cops responded with shots. People got hold of a police bus and rammed the gate with it, so the cops finally surrendered. Part of the building burned down. The airport was quickly taken over to prevent flying in more cops from Bishkek. Reports were confusing as supposedly some of the policemen joined protesters, while many others just fled.

On March 21 local officials in Osh, despite obvious tension, had been holding the public celebration of Nooruz (traditional holiday - first day of spring) in the main square. Suddenly a mob of some 5 000 armed with iron bars, stones and Molotov's entered the square and took over the governmental building - all without any violence, because the cops and officials simply ran away. Police stations proved to be empty - law enforcers disappeared. The airport and television station was also seized. Local opposition leader, Artykov toured the streets calling people not to damage public property, as "It is no longer Akayev's - now it's ours - the people". Unfortunately, they listened and the first to appear as result of assembly was to be militia, whose role was to "take care of order". Late in the evening almost 100 riot cops, which participated in previous day events, were seized at the airport, as they tried to escape from the city. Even local opposition leaders got nervous: "People are becoming less controllable" said one of them.

BISHKEK - SHORT CARNIVAL OF LOOTING

Officials in Bishkek became nervous: security was intensified, mounted police patrolled the center. Yet still, only 10 000 rallied... in support of Akayev.

Finally, on March 23 some 1 500 people attended the rally in solidarity with protests in other parts of the country. In only 10 minutes riot cops with the help of civil policemen dispersed the crowd beating up and arresting numbers. A smaller rally in another part of town finished similarly. Small groups of people from Osh and Jalalabad had been however slowly arriving over the last days...

March 24 - some 2000 people stormed the White House - the main government building in Bishkek. Police didn't put up much resistance, some of them escaped leaving their gear behind. Protesters threw some furniture and computers out of the windows, trashed the place, hung out banners and captured the chief of National Security Service - Imankulov, Defence Minister - Topoev and National Guard commander - Chotbaev and deputy of administration - Januzakov. As two started to be beaten, they escaped, the others were severely beaten. Looting took place: hordes of people, some of them very young, poured into the building and ripped out every valuable thing to be found there: from computer equipment to former officials' clothes, porn magazines, and furniture. Many people got completely drunk on looted booze and were lying around. Some

began selling looted stuff right away on the street. Only a day later opposition supporters got the building under their control and kicked out "apolitical" rioters.

Akaev was at the time in his residence outside of the city and fled the country with his family via Russian military airbase - helicopter took them to Kazakhstan. In the afternoon, till now state-loyal Kyrgyz National TV announced that it would provide broadcast to all sides - opposition leaders appeared soon on screen, trying to calm down the population. Some 300 supporters freed oppositionist leader Kulov from prison Moldavanovka - other prisoners remained. Kulov appeared on TV warning civil police and other old-authority servants from stirring troubles, reminding them that he knew them by names.

Late on March 24 opposition establishes interim government with Kurmanbek Bakiyev, as prime minister. Other popular opposition leaders got their awaited posts too, e.g. Roza Otunbaeva as Foreign Minister. Many local leaders got their expected share of power in regional government - Artykov is now officially in charge of Osh. Old cops seemed to be most trusted, so Imankulov kept his job as chief of National Security Service.

The night of 24th saw a crowd of hundreds looting and burning supermarkets, expensive shops and banks in the center of Bishkek. People exchanged their old shoes for Italian made designer pairs, young girls stole computer equipment, while old ladies packed bags full of food items. Witnesses were confused by the fact that some of the plunderers looked like "law-abiding citizens", while others "could be criminals". Big national shopping malls like Silk Way, Beta Stores, as well as Chinese-run Goin were targeted. Also smaller businesses, restaurants, internet cafes, ATM's were attacked and many set on fire. Shop Oruzheyny was robbed of all its firearms and some people attempted to attack Hyatt Hotel, where some of the opposition politicians had stayed, yet they were repelled. On this night many regular, unaffiliated people seemed to try their chance. They will not forget it easily...

On the morning of March 25 crowds gathered in a number of places. There was an attempt to loot the largest shopping mall in town, TSUM, however owners of shops formed cordon outside of the building to protect their property. Fights occurred all over, also in other places guards or shop owners were attacked. At least 3 deaths (one killed by guard) and some 360 injured were reported this day. Foreign officials left the country in haste so most of the embassies were closed. All government offices and schools were closed. Banks were on high alert, improving their guards. Many regular cops concerned about personal safety left their uniforms at home. At one point in the day however, riot cops in full gear reappeared on the street, however just in one location, and gunshots were heard. Only food shops remained open and people bought stocks of food, with raised prices. Heavy rain and winds swept the city. Russian media - Moscow TV channels are important in Kyrgyzstan due to

the shit quality of local media - describe social disturbances in a dismissing way as "asiats-hina" - "typically asian". It stands for: chaotic, disorganised, drunken, barbarian...

Meanwhile Akaev - a loyal crowd of 3000, which started in its hometown Kemin and from there headed to Bishkek on horseback,



Looted supermarket in Bishkek

on foot or by vehicle seemed to be approaching the capital. They attacked some people on their way. Akaev himself was already in Moscow. The night of March 25 didn't see much looting in Bishkek because police units were supported by opposition's "people's militias" - 2 "lawless ones" are killed by guards and 50 detained for plundering. NGO speakers and opposition leaders described looters as "Akaev-paid thugs". New leaders set the presidential elections date for July 10. All returns slowly to how it was and protestors go back home after shaking hands with new rulers - which thank them for their support.

The night of the 26 passes only with minor break-ins in small shops and such. "Normality" returned and the "tulip revolution" (as it is called trying to draw similarities with "orange" change in Ukraine) became the next bureaucratic coup d'etat.

USA Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice



Pro-Akaev rally

sent some optimistic words, in Uzbekistan's capital Tashkent, opposition and human-right groups celebrate "the victory of democracy" outside of Kyrgyz embassy, and leaders of Ukraine and Georgia (seen now as the blueprints of Kyrgyzstan bloodless "revolution") - Yuschenko and Saakashvili - that met on this day in Kiev, expressed their solidarity with "people of Kyrgyzstan". Only Putin grumbles, that in yet another ex-soviet republic "political issues were solved by unlawful methods and accompanied by looting and fatalities". Also

leaders of neighbouring autocratic Uzbekistan and Tajikistan seemed now uneasy after seeing how fast change took place in Kyrgyzstan. Keeping till now friendly relation government of Kazakhstan closed quickly its borders, which affects badly thousands of Kyrgyz working or travelling to trade there due to much better off Kazakh economy. Rulers of China are unpleasantly concerned about events in Kyrgyzstan: till now they had there profitable economic relations, however during lootings 2 Chinese supermarkets were completely destroyed and many Chinese nationals injured. But even more they worry about the possible impact on China's most western province of Xinjiang, where 12 million Uighurs, sharing Turkic-Muslim heritage with Kyrgyz, Kazakhs, etc., live...

THE FUTURE SMELLS OF PROBLEMS

New leaders of Kyrgyzstan will not have a quiet rule: people will not easily forget how fast things can be changed by occupying buildings, chasing out governors and blockading highways. Anyway, these days the country seems to be ruled by parallel powers: if on higher levels post shifting went rather smooth, in local governments, universities, police departments and other parts of so-called "public sector" former officials didn't step back, so there are parallel structures - e.g. university of Osh has now 2 rectors, each of them sure to be the right one. Ishengul Boljurova, deputy prime for social affairs, said "Unfortunately, this is a side-effect of a popular revolution. One reason is the specific mindset of Kyrgyzstan's citizens, who think a new leader will come along and fix everything. The other reason is that... a certain section of the population wants to exploit the post-revolutionary situation and seize official positions on the wave of emotion."

Then another problem came in the form of squatters. They first appeared on April 7, initially in a parkland area in the south of Bishkek, and began marking off areas with rope, wire and stones. In the week that followed, between 3000 and 5000 settlers became involved, living in tents and lighting fires at night on their new land. Elsewhere in the city, the squatters took over 90 hectares of land that belongs to the Manas University, a new Kyrgyz-Turkish institution now under construction. By April 12 they were laying foundations and constructing walls for new houses.

The issue of landlessness is a long-standing one. Under the law, every Kyrgyzstan national was supposed to have been given their own piece of land after the Soviet-era collective farms were divided up in the early 90's.

Many of the new squatters insist, that they have every right to take land after years of requests went unanswered. Some are from southern Kyrgyzstan where the protests were strongest. They're not linked to any party and seem to have no leadership, however their numbers are growing and they are determined. As one of them puts "I won't give up the land I've taken, not for anything - they can shoot me - because I'll never get this chance again. No



Protestors in Bishkek

one gave us a thought for 15 years, so we'll take care of ourselves."

Some law-abiding Bishkek residents were enraged by squatters. In their petition they stated, "Everything we have, we earned by working. We did not take things from others, justifying our actions by our poverty." They staged a 5000-strong protest on April 10 and formed new anti-squatter, residents' rights group "Committee for Stability and Order". In some localities near capital landowners hired thugs to kick out squatters, which spread intensively. One man lived in rented accommodation in Bishkek for years, but he joined the squatters' movement: "Just look at how much land around the capital has been occupied by big shots who build their mansions here."

On a level of high politics, the situation seems to be confusing too: on April 14 the daughter of ex-president, Bermat Akacva entered parliament surrounded by body-guards. She claimed to be still its member. Day later crowds protested against it, fearing that the rest of the family may return to power. Since then crowds had been also picketing governmental buildings - they seemed rather disappointed that not much changed except for the names of those in power. On April 27 between 150 and 200 people surrounded parliament and White House, then National Security Service headquarters, one of the most inaccessible and well-guarded buildings in Kyrgyzstan. This demonstration was sparked by the arrest of four young men from the town of Karabalta with weapons charges. After a two day picket of the NSS building which included a break-in attempt during which several dozen women got into the building's yard - the men were released after promising not to leave their homes. Police were not ordered to intervene. Isn't the state a little helpless?

"The people were shown by example, that half the city and the government building can be ransacked, and no one will be punished for this. When people see these methods, they realise that if they cannot solve the problem constitutionally and legally, then why not do it this way? "some women said - Yes, exactly!"

Interview printed below appeared in April 2005 issue of bulgarian anarchist magazine "Svobodna Misl". It describes realities in the bulgarian countryside and proves that anarchists can act everywhere - Kochan is just a village. Thanx for I. for translation!

INTERVIEW WITH THE ACTIVISTS OF THE ANARCHIST GROUP "BEZVLASTIE" (NO RULE), BULGARIA

As a consequence of the flyers by anarchist group "Bezvlastie" issued in solidarity with the tobacco workers in the Kochan village (Gotse Delchev district) some women-workers from two sheds dared to fight for their rights. Not long after that they faced harassment by the local "businessmen" ...Indymedia BG contacted the group "Besvlastie", which explained what is exactly going on in the Kochan village. (AbolishingBB)

Indymedia Bulgaria: What happened two weeks ago in Kochan?

Anarchist group "Bezvlastie": About 20 days ago when the tobacco buying up in our parish (Satovcha village) began, many tobacco producers decided to protest in front of the municipality building because of the low purchase prices. The people obviously expected the officials to keep their promises. And they were - there were better prices than the previous year, and buying up without problems. They even made a festivity "in honour of the tobacco workers" in the summer of 2004. The protestors came without any hesitation from all of the municipal villages. They had no permission, that's why the police arrested them. They made written explanations and after this their tobacco was bought up at an extremely low price - that's because of the fact they dared to open their mouths. All this happened without the bulgarian public knowing about it, without any journalists and any syndicates, and even worse - the protest was sabotaged by high-ranking persons. We decided to back up the protestors after this event. We made newsheets and pasted them all over. Four women-workers from different sheds who read the newsheet, dared to make a complaint in the Employment Office of Gotse Delchev town concerning insurances unpaid by the employers. The Employment Office checked the facts, which didn't please the businessmen at all. There was even an incident in which a local businessman directly threatened us with the words: "I can do anything I want with you."

I: Is this the first time that you have become victims of repression?

AOB: No, we have had problems with the police before because of the political graffiti that we draw on forbidden places. After talks with some local policemen we stopped spraying political graffiti and we began to make newsheets that we glue on places intended for that purpose (where other adds and newsheets are glued).

I: Do you consider giving up?

AOB: Our common and simple opinion is: NO!!!

I: What are you exactly doing and why? Is there anything illegal in your appeals? If no, then why is the state/businessmen against you?

AOB: Through our actions in the form of

written messages, we are trying to wake up the working people, so they can begin to protest and to ask the state for their rights. But we deeply doubt that the state can satisfy the people's requests. Our protests are not anti-constitutional, just the opposite - this is the only way to help our society, which has an apathetic attitude. The state is against us because we are not a professional organization and we make some small mistakes for example the writings on the buildings, the meetings at forbidden places, and some social behaviour by some activists of ours (beatings, insults and such). But as for the future, we are decided not to allow such wilful outbursts. The reason why the businessmen are against us, is that our actions refute their personal interests, which are profitable just for themselves on account of the workers.

I: What is the social situation in that Bulgarian region like?

AOB: The social situation is too unsatisfying. The monthly average salary in the enterprises or factories is 100-180 leva (50-90 euro). The money is insufficient for the living requirements of a single family member, let alone the entire family. And the working hours that are decided by the employers themselves is unlimited: the people work from morning to nightfall, sometimes even at night and without any compensation. The additional money for "health damaging work conditions" is not paid also, and the holidays are a rare event. Even worse, some employers don't pay the insurances of the workers who come back from work abroad and plan to go there again (the people that do seasonal work in the summer in Greece and come back to the sheds in the winter).

I: And what is the people's attitude? Have they the desire for change?

AOB: Pitifully, both the people from this region and in the rest of Bulgaria are afraid they can lose their bread. It is for exactly this reason that the workers cannot stand up for their rights. Everybody knows that the Bulgarian mafia is notorious and we are powerless in its face. But nevertheless we will continue to fight for the common people's rights, for equality and for an even distribution of the goods, as well as for the freedom of the individual and for a better life!

SOCIAL STRUGGLES / PRECARIOUSNESS



"FOR RISE OF WORKERS RIGHTS AND DIGNITY"

12th of May 2005 - Trbovlje, Slovenia

On the 12th of May 2005 a protest titled "For rise of workers rights and dignity" was held in Trbovlje, Slovenia. The protest was organised by anarchist union, Union of self-organised workers (SiSD/USW) and workers from Zasavje region. Around 150-200 people participated. The protest was organised as a reply to massive unemployment and lay-offs in the region. The aim of the protest was also to resist the capitalist manipulations, which are shown through stealing money from workers pay. Zasavje region, years ago a miners centre, is the region, with almost the largest percent of unemployment in Slovenia; the working places are permanently closing, especially in the textile industry. The protest "For rise of workers rights and dignity" was a result of two-year cooperation between anarcho-syndicalists and workers from Zasavje region.

Two years ago in Trbovlje, the biggest city in the region, was organised the first protest for workers rights and payments, by self-organised workers from textile factory "Peko", because, at that time, capitalists decided to close down the factory and leave people on the street. We supported that protest and made contacts with self-organised workers. A few months after the protest, the government offered the money (1,5 million tolar/6,300 euro for each workers payment) to any company that will employ the workers. Textile factory "Tect-pro" answered that they would employ the workers and got all the money. Until today "Tect-pro" have paid the workers just 3 times (last pay they got was in February 2005), some

of the workers lost the job after they tried to hold the boss in the factory and force him to pay the money, but some of them are still working. The example of "Tect-pro" is a typical example of capitalist manipulations have been permanently happening in the last few years.

The protest "For rise of workers rights and dignity", went well. A group of old singers that sing partisan songs opened the protest. After that, the statements of support and solidarity from libertarian groups from the whole world followed. As speakers there were members of USW and workers from "Tect-pro", unemployed workers and miners. Speeches were about unemployment and bad social situation in region, about the inabilities of the bureaucratic unions, manipulations with payments and about the self-organisation of the workers. After the protest, we made contacts with lot of people and organised a meeting with workers who organised the protest with us for further direct actions as soon as possible and for different tactics for forcing the boss to pay the money. The real fight had just begun. Zasavje today - tomorrow whole society!

In solidarity

Predrag Radulovic

*On behalf of International secretary
of Union of self-organised workers
(SiSD/USW)*



* Union of self-organised workers (SiSD/USW) is an anarcho-syndicalist organization/union; we follow anarcho-syndicalist theory and practice, which is the opposite of and against all cooperation with government, capitalists and/or state. We are in close cooperation with Social Anarchist Federation (SAF) from Slovenia. Also, delegates from USW participated in the Balkan Anarchist Bookfair in Zagreb, and we had presentation together with delegates from Serbia (ASI) and Croatia (ASK).

SITUATION OF WAGED WORKERS AND STRATEGIES OF RESISTANCE FROM RUSSIAN SOCIAL FORUM, MOSCOW

The following text is a translation of the report from the seminar, moderated by Vasilij Starostin from syndicalistic *Siberian Confederation of Labour*, which was one of the most interesting parts of the *Russian Social Forum* held in April in Moscow. The report was written by Vasilij himself. The intention of Vasilij was to introduce discussion about "precarization" to Russia, although it is just shortly mentioned in this report (Russian realities of precarization are looked more closely in a booklet by Vasilij, which is available at www.syndicalist.ru).

The seminar was attended by representatives of the Siberian Confederation of Labour, Independent Miners' Union, International Union of Workers of Food and Tobacco Industry, Agriculture, Hotel and Restaurant Services, Catering and Mixed Industries (IUF), Network of Workplace Resistance (project of Autonomous Action) and movement

"Alternatives".

The seminar recognized several problems, connected with specialties of working relations in Russia today:

★ The hiring of workers as entrepreneurs. Such "entrepreneurs" do not own small businesses, but are used as a waged labour force on a con-

tract basis. This way, a contract is not based on labour codex, but on civil codex, which falsely considers entrepreneur-owner and entrepreneur-executioner as equal sides;

★ "Black" labour, that is, without a written labour contract;

★ Secret wages - this way enterprise does not pay taxes to social funds, which is reflected in

the level of the welfare of the worker in the case of a sickness, as well as in a decrease of the cumulative part in the pension fund;

★ Growth of the incentive part of the wage and decrease of the main part of the wage - such an approach allows the employer to deprive a substantial part of the income of a worker. Participants of the seminar gave examples of such form of wages in enterprises connected with harmful and very harmful conditions of work. This is directly connected with unjustified intensification of work, increase in cases of professional sicknesses and trauma;

★ Temporary contracts instead of permanent contracts. For example contracts of 2-3 months, where workers are fired after a contract and are immediately hired again according to new contract became a usual phenomena;

★ Setting up subcontractor companies exclusively for the sale of a workforce without rights. Such firms are not involved in any production whatsoever, but only sell the labour of waged workers to contractors which bear no responsibility of the staff employed in such a way.

Current tendency of the transformation of formerly relatively guaranteed working relations to non-guaranteed and unprotected is called "precarization", from Latin word "prekar", which means unstable, temporary, standing on a sand.

A participant of the seminar from "Network of Working place Resistance" (a project of Autonomous Action) told about the project "Anti-job" (www.antijob.nm.ru), where a black list of employers who violate the rights of workers is put. Any internet user may submit information about his employer. From time to time, some employers who found themselves in the black list engage in an exchange with administration of the site, most of the time their attitude is "we are a private company, and relations in our company will be as we consider necessary!"

Due to lack of time, participants of the seminar could only very briefly look at the question of founding unions in such workplaces. The example of Poland was looked at, where practice unions in small and medium-size private companies may exist only without a legal status. It was proposed to establish unions on territorial, not by industrial basis in order to avoid repression from the side of the employers. Participants decided to found a special e-mail list, which will go more deeply into topics talked about in the seminar. After the seminar, this list has been founded. In order to join, you should write to info@syndicalist.ru with subject line "bad job".

Vasily Starostin
Moderator of the seminar
Siberian Confederation of Labour

ANARCHA-FEMINISM



WITCHES FLYING OVER SKOPJE

Anarcha-feminist festival in Skopje

It happened, finally. Now it seems like a blink, but during the festival it seemed that the day would never end. I hardly manage to visit all of the workshops/discussions (too much organization stuff to do), which made it almost impossible for me to evaluate the fest.

3 days of festing, discussing, learning, gathering, having fun. It started on the 22nd and finished on the 24th of April (well, we had an extra spontaneous workshop the following day). It gathered people, feminists, and anarchists or those just interested, from Serbia, Croatia, Greece, Bulgaria, Austria, France, Macedonia, Wales and Holland.

Not having a place of our own made the festival very mobile, so every day we had to move to a different location, which might of had some advantages (diversion), but it also made many things difficult. But it did more or less appear that each of those places satisfied the specific needs of that day.

The first day had a more discussion kind of atmosphere. Issues like diy media, pornography, domestic violence, masturbation, provoked, here and there, some interesting questions. At the end of the day the room became almost crowded, but still more of the people from abroad that were arriving, with just a few locals. There were doomsday graphics and shaved woman collages to soften this monotonous intro-discussion day a little bit and put some beauty in the space. The night was great. Lots of people, meeting each other, having their first chats and cheers. A nice mix of punk/hardcore band and the soft acoustic guitars of Dryene Marije were really indicative of the diversity of the fest and people participating: women, men, anarchists, feminists, lesbians, punks, radicals, queers...

"We put all our hopes in the sun. Oh yes. It was there. There were workshops and performances that were impossible to take place in the small scout's barrack that we had for it for free the second day. But the nice parking place just near and the small front yard gave quite a relaxed atmosphere. Morning feminist theatre workshop was really refreshing and moving. The film *Lilja 4ever* was followed by a discussion on trafficking, not really impressive, since it gave mostly the mainstream approach to the problem. Two diy workshops on making jewelry from plastic glass and making your own pad turned the direction of the fest a bit at the end of the day, which still had a lot to offer. A 20-minute dance performance on anti-trafficking, which doesn't really change the feeling (or not) from the previous discussion. But then, a boom. The next performance was a queer bomb. The Capitalist whore fantasy got everybody's attention. The room was so crowded,

that unfortunately many didn't have a chance to see it. Different reactions, but people were really expressive. It was really great to see it in Skopje. The night finished with two more performances with juggling and iron sculpturing, and one more, our favorite one, police evicting us. Not much to say about it.

Sunday. Some people already left. More Feminist theater workshops, women's writing discussion, women and media presentation, batik-diy painting technique, transkitchen rhythmic therapy performance, how to use condom workshop and party. That's what was happening the last day of the fest. And maybe because it was the last one, I felt much more relaxed. Women's writing raised some issues that are very often discussed in the feminist, especially literature, movement, such as "is there writing that can be recognized as women's", or *femmine*, can we recognize the gender of the writer etc. We have a nice memory banner of the batik workshop, full of different wax color-creations. Women and media were really informative and interesting, through many examples presenting the very evident media exploitation of woman, as an integral part of the patriarchal capitalist society. An impressive performance of lori and zoe, playing with themselves and the fucking beauty market standards made people laugh and enjoy the last night. Not in the program, but spontaneously organized, which I personally like very much, was a workshop on how to use women's and other types of condoms and dildos. The same group of women made a self-defense workshop the following day after the fest, which was an interesting, relaxing, realistic experience in the park. And partyyyyyyy. Music performance and dj beast 666, electro/punk, 80's new wave. Wow, we had fun. And then, the blue angels again, of course. There is no end till the police said so. During the fest there were a few anarcha-feminist distros and publications. We managed to make a few translations as well. Food was provided, sometimes late, but great, from food not bombs collective.

Ok, there was a lot. It was hoped that it would be a time and a place for making first contacts, meeting people, talking, discussing, enjoying each other and having fun, and I hope it was. But what I'm really glad about is hearing new girls that want to involve themselves more in anarcha-feminist actions. And guess what, this week we have a meeting. Ok, I'm finishing, just saying that the fest was a joint effort of many, many women and men from all around, their solidarity, benefits and participation. I'm up on my broom now.



PROGRESS REPORT:

"BEYOND THE CARPATHIANS, THE NIGHTMARE BEGINS"

The position of the Hungarian working class is rather bad. Bad, because a big part of the Hungarian wage-workers, a big part of the exploited working class is fooled by democratic illusions; bad, because it can be divided by nationalism and manipulated conflicts of interests. Everybody defends his/her sovereign territory separately, defends his/her alienated and impoverished life, defends his/her everyday existence with its illusions - in reality, all that leads to the acceptance of the ideology of the bourgeois political forces.

The Kadar system played a decisive role in the process which has led to such a situation which we regard so pessimistic. It's paradoxical but true that more and more people weep back Kadar's capitalism, in which the working class applied the "order of self-censorship" to itself. Though its gray and boring totalitarianism, in which the proletariat lost its "autonomous" character and the Bolshevik party regarded it as a 3-years-old stupid child, the Kadar epoch had its specific logic: "keep your trap shut, then we'll give you bread and butter, beer and medicine, party membership card and relative certainty of existence, cheap opportunity for education". And they had given also prohibitive zones which became taboos, and if somebody crossed them, then he/she could easily find himself/herself beaten up, in a mental hospital. They provided physical and intellectual poverty, and a "proletarian-killer" view on the future, which seemed to be perfect and lulled the workers to sleep. Kadarian capitalism tried to leach every really human desire, and once more: it gave us everything which it could give: poverty, opportunity of integration and knout. Well, here is the "merriest barack".

After the workers uprising in Eastern Berlin there were also workers protests in Hungary (this was before Kadar). In Csepel (a southern workers' suburb in Budapest) there was a strike of 200-300 metal workers, against the bad living conditions. There were also "disturbances" in Ózd, Diosgyor and in several places of the Great Plain. In the summer of 1954 there were sporadic strikes again. After 1956, the real working-class movement was cut down, turned into a museum object and was expelled by the state to the "blank" pages of the censored coursebooks. The resistance ranged as far as 1956, but after that was defeated and became isolated. But, of course, it didn't cease to exist, although after 1956 the dumb and defeated working class in Hungary not only went back to the "death factories" and workshops, but it subordinated itself to a "higher will": the party which could calmly sit in the power as far as the more modern and active form of capitalism didn't move to this area. The conflicts of the fifties calmed down at the end of the spring in 1957. The repressions and executions had begun, a revolutionary of the Tuzolto street group (one of the most important militant groups in 1956), Istvan Angyal

was executed by the bolsheviks in 1958.

We enumerate some examples from the history of the proletarian protest movements, which show that it wasn't possible to silence fully the voices of discontent. It was an amnesty in 1960, this "limited pardon" was given also to those who were imprisoned for '56, but not to all of them. In the jail of Vac the political prisoners started a hunger strike, but they stopped this activity because of its pointlessness. In 1966, the Vietnam Solidarity Committee (which was organized under the aegis of KISZ, the official bolshevik youth organisation) made an illegal demonstration in May Day. At the end of the year, the organisation was dissolved. In 1967, young "new left" activists organized again demonstrations at the embassies of the western countries. Maoists were arrested in 1968: they were accused of organizing an illegal party. In 1970 - at the Lenin-centenary - in a commemoration, the students, organizing the programme, highlighted "improper citations" from Lenin's texts. In the 21st of March (the day of the proclamation of the Hungarian Soviet Republic in 1919), 1971, "new left university students" wanted to organize a demonstration with red cockades - because of this, they had to abandon their studies. (An excellent revolutionary film about 1919, entitled "Agitators", had been kept in a box by the authorities for 30 years.) In 1971, at the 6th of October, several young people gathered together in the Museum garden (a place in Budapest where the revolution in 1848 had begun) and talked about "those of living in misery in basement flats". Let's stop for a minute here! It is important to mention that during the Kadar regime, in 15th of March and 23rd of October there were always larger or smaller demonstrations and protests "in the name of liberty and independence", in the depth of whose there was hidden the desire of breaking out from the helpless and impoverished worker's position. These demonstrations continued also after the change of power, but now with the logos and slogans of nationalism. In 1973, new leftist Lukacsists - who had close relationships to the Praxis Circle in Yugoslavia - were kicked out of their jobs and from the party, because of their critical activity. The party constantly fights against the leftist intellectuals, it is enough to point out the rows around the study "Piece rate" of Miklos Haraszti or the book of Konrad and Szelenyi about the new ruling class. In the summer of 1979 there was a raising of prices on foodstuffs. The workers of the Csepel Iron and Steel Works put a slice of bread-and-dripping (typical proletarian food of those times) into the hand of the Lenin statue in front of the factory. After the 1980 strike in Gdansk, informations circulated in Budapest which said, that "there was an action also in Csepel". Another gossips talked about a strike which lasted 3 days - "Kadar also went there to establish order". After a month, the planned raising of

prices (again on foodstuffs) was cancelled, as a worker said: "they were afraid that here also can happen something". In October of 1980 there was a wage-strike in the china factory of Hodmezovasarhely, the officials quickly distributed 1000-1000 forints among the workers. In the 3rd of October 1980 on a building in Kispest, an oil-fired stove exploded. The workers had already for long grumbled about the poor circumstances. From 190 workers 34 (!) went to strike. We pick out some jokes from that period: "It is 40 kilograms and cats grass. What is it? - We will be it next year." "The skeletons meet in 1980. One asks the another: - Did you die before or after the raising of prices? - Me? I am still alive." And for last: "They raised the prices of bread, meat and milk. What will be raised next time? Barricades!" In 1981, 52 working women in a poultry processing factory in Szabolcs refused to do the overtime which wasn't reported earlier. In the spring of this year meetings were held in several universities in Hungary, and there was some talk of establishing independent students' organizations - this could also flirt with the memories of 1956 and 1968. In the September in 1982, when the new tariffs of the public transport came into effect, the workers of the Taurus Tyre Factory in Szeged refused to work. The bigwigs again intervened, they promised wage-increase. From the sixties, the class struggle, the fight against alienation is unambiguously present in the films and literature, in the more and more bolder sociographies and political writings. We could illustrate this with a lot of films, poems, essays, but we cite only one sentence from a writing of Zoltan Zsille from the seventies, which speaks for itself: "The workers state monopolized the right for itself, to impose the costs of the maintenance and the development of the society to the working class." In a 1982 issue of the Beszelo samizdat (illegal newspaper), a proletarian was asked whether it is possible to have in Hungary such events as in Poland.

He said: "If the economic situation is getting worse in such a tempo then yes." And it DID get worse (but instead of the uprising, came the change of power and the era of modernization of the capital), and this process was accompanied by the law about "work-shyness": if somebody was caught in the act of "idling" then he found himself behind bars. The ashes of "comrade Trotsky" laughed as they saw the late bolshevik realization of the "militarization of labour", about which he wrote so poetically. The real class-fighter literature was harassed by the authorities. It wasn't possible to read the analyses about 1956: you didn't have access to them neither in the bookshops nor in the libraries. But an underground left opposition emerged, which - although it was democratic - propagated the history of the Eastern European proletarian struggles. This way a few people could read

the non-censored writings on these struggles. Some examples of the writings which were published within that framework: the book of Bill Lomax about 1956, the "Kronstadt Diary" of Alexander Berkman, the documents of the workers' uprisings in Poland and a publication about the proletarian action in Berlin in 1953. In 1988 there was a demonstration of 10000 people in 15th of March in which a speaker cheered the Polish Solidarity and the "friendship of the peoples around the Danube".

Then the epoch of the power change began. The economy of the USSR bankrupted, it became incompetitive and decomposed. The circulation of the capital with regulation by the state, lost the concurrency struggle, and the classic but modernized capitalism took its place. The working places were sold out from beneath the feet of the workers. And the "state capitalist bolshevik home of calmness and protection" was succeeded by more violent economic compulsions. The sharks of capital fired the elderly wage-workers socialised in the "peace period" from their jobs, modernized capitalism changed the structure of production and made it faster, while the institutionalized working class movement, having lost its ground, mourned for its tyrans. In a huge series of documentum films, the so-called Ozd-series - the peak of which is the epoch of power-change -, the camera recorded the next talk: "- How it has happened, why it has happened? - asks the wife of Istvan Andras. - There is no job, no idea, anything... In spite of being 40 years old, we are here as the very picture of misery. Our lives are stolen." Instead of the Punchinellos decorated with the red star, the mummies of the party-state, the scene of our life is now occupied by the next capitalist company. The chilling cabaret of the "people's democracies and the COMECON" was changed by the performance of the more classical, but more rational for the ruling class, model of capitalist production. Between 1989 and 1992 the empire of the Warsaw Pact collapsed, but this was not the process of capitalist restauration, as the Marxist-Leninist like to emphasize, but the rationality of capital fought its way through. The economy which was influenced by the bolshevik parties, couldn't bear the competition with the more advanced western concurrents. It is enough to remind of the violent maintenance of the loss-making companies and branches, or of those services, which - because of ideological reasons - remained free or very cheap. The history of the running into debt is long, and it would be interesting to write a whole chapter about it... The answers of the disordered working class to the modernized capitalism remained mainly reformist. The deformed "traditions of the workers councils" revived. These weren't revolutionary at all, and didn't oppose capitalism absolutely. They accepted the frames of the capitalist order, and at every occasion they pacted with the bourgeoisie. In their cases we cannot speak about real self-organization, because these miserable exhibitions emerged under the supervision of the authorities. The further commercialisation of the workers' self-

management by nationalism and by "tamed self-consciousness" weakened the working class, which had been already in a pathological state. But it felt that something is very wrong. The fall of its living standard: the gradual decrease of the average salary, the gigantic rise in prices - these processes had to alert the proletariat and bring it round from its state of suspended animation. The dividing techniques of capitalism usually work, the individualism of "me and me" can be successful for a time, but the increasing poverty is felt even by the atomized and separated working class, and although a lot of the bigger factories and furnaces were closed, although the unemployment is bigger and bigger, the gettos of misery force the proletariat into a common space of living: packed like sardines they live in miserable flats, streets, alleys, squares. You see! In the November of 1990 as an answer to the rising of the benzin prices, the so-called



"taxi drivers' blockade" broke out, which went beyond the narrow professional line, and thousands of proletarians joined the wave of protest. And then they stayed on the streets not because of their dissatisfaction with the benzin prices, but because of their common life, the hopelessness and misery of their exploited proletarian life, their alienated and destroyed everyday life. The euphoria of the power-change and the mystical promise of the "new and better life" were already smashed by the necrophilic reality of capital. The proletariat who wanted to protest and tramp enjoyed the blockade which reached the whole country: there are no red lamps, no spiteful car-beasts, no mass misery and controller on the public transport, no being late from the work-place - instead of this, there is the solidarity of the "people of the streets": decided workers and working-women talking, discussing, small and large, with glasses and with beard, the army of those who cook and bring food, the remained conscious glances of the housing estates, from the suburbs and from the hearth of the city, merry and want to live - just like a genre-painting from 1956... The street belongs to us, but not entirely... The protest hadn't become general and didn't become a revolutionary uprising. We can remember that the minister for home affairs didn't know what to do, and trembling in the window of the parliament, he consid-

ered about using force against the protesters. Negotiations started for the "coordination of interests", and with this also the retreat of the working class, which - because of the lack of organisation and further development of consciousness - returned to the home of racks-workbenches... Paralyzing the roads, the protest movement gave only the keynote, but didn't go further, and the suffocated wave of protest started to retreat.

Left-wing and right-wing governments come and go, the amplifying nationalism brought about fascism and the bourgeoisie are rejoicing over the corpse of the proletariat. No, it is not 1933, or 1921, Russia when they thought we had been beaten and we capitulated. In the first part of our report we made a draft about the attributes of the Kadar regime which are still in effect. The demonstrations and the strikes still exist, but they are accompanied by the capitalist "solidarity" (integration) of the left- and right-wing of the parliament. The real manifestation of the proletarian discontent are weak and are developing in accordance with the interests of the capitalists. The "civil movement" is growing stronger and stronger but they are lobbying to the left- or right-wing forces. One can see the actualities every day: the wage-workers in the hospitals want to go on strike, the drivers of the BKV (Budapest Transport Company) have just got their wages raised before what they were threatening with strike. The bourgeois are pointing to each other and talking bullshit about corruption, golden handshakes, the merging of the power spheres and the mafia... The demonstrations of the working class are organised under the aegis of the trade unions, using mainly democratic and nationalist paroles, about the security of the existence, for the worn-out picture of the future... and the idle bourgeois are just laughing in themselves.

But let us cite some of the examples of the labour demonstrations of nowadays. In the first day of July, 1994 the Cyclon-Berstal factory in Berettyóújfalu was occupied by the workers of the plant, but the experiment of the self-management has failed, because it has gone for the democracy of the capital. There were also demonstrations in the Vasas mines near Pécs before that, and in Biharkeresztes, the workers of the Steel Production Ltd. wanted to occupy the factory in order to hinder the privatization - but finally they did not performed it. Also in August, 1994 the proles living under the minimal living standards in Miskolc held a peaceful demonstration. In May, 1994 the workers of the Berva factory in Eger held a demonstration in Budapest. In 1993 there were strikes at the electricity companies in Tiszaölk and Paks. Also in this year 60 000 public health workers demonstrated at the Parliament, in the 15th of November 70 thousand people marched on the street against the education laws, in 15th of December it was followed by the demonstration of the educators in terms of tolerance. In the autumn of 1996 the workers of the car parts company 'Hammerstein' wanted to establish a trade union, but the bosses have posed it out and

fired the initiators. Also in 1996 the youth organisations organised a demonstration against the school fees, but soon the truth unveils and the negotiation with the power turns out clearly. In 1997 the meat industry workers in Szekszárd held a demonstration. In the same year in Tolnanémedi a blockade was formed against the decreasing of the number of hospital beds, but the rage calms down very soon. In the beginning of 1998 protesting demonstrations are held under the influence of the trade unions (public health, post office, energy industry etc.) In the beginning of April, 1998, Salgótarján the proles waiting for their grants attacked the post office which had refused to pay them - we have no information about other events.

The farmers' demonstration has just ended, and the tractors of the bourgeoisie of the countryside decorated with flattering tricolors are hitting the road again. These vehicles are mainly the monsters of the ruling class forced on the flaster. But still... generally in the Hungarian proletarian reports there is little information about the life of the working class of the province. Naturally, the transition here was also accomplished, just like in the cities, but the poverty and the sad Hungarian reality remained. The wage-workers of the Hungarian villages lost their foothold as the state coops were abolished, because it had turned out that the collectivised agriculture doesn't meet the requirements of the new era. According to an agrarian study, there is not enough capital for the reschedulement, the structure is wrong, the technical and technological system is obsolete. The redistribution of the private property has begun again, the nationalist political chess games has reinforced, and due to the fresh laws about compensation and the privatizations, the well-known signs saying: 'Private property! Crossing is forbidden!' have appeared on the fields and the forests again. In the Kadar era when the lords were organizing big hunts in the forests and closed big forest areas by special squads - this hobby has been continued also in the new era, accompanied by the habit of putting signs like that. The temporary powerful of the bourgeoisie has decreased the agricultural grants, the export-import grant system has been transformed, and the ruling class, in spite of its nationalism, in many cases, preferred the "external product" to the "home product". The capital always goes where its interest leads it and the Hungarian Fascism still could not understand this clear logic - to its self-defence the "network of Hungarian products" was established. This "great" and "exciting" race theory of theirs has been extended to almost everything, that's how that the phenomena of the Hungarian forest, Hungarian wood, Hungarian milk was created - and this mythology has produced something useful for us, too, because in fact, the authentic Hungarian jerk, the self-conscious Trianon hick has appeared - a charmingly stupid and silly mastodon, an artificially produced operette-archetype, an authentic characteristic of the era.

In 1988 there were 1335 co-operative farms in Hungary. In spite of the transition, their number have increased, but this fact is deceptive: in 1988 they employed 1088 thousand people (most of which were proletari-

ans), a big part of whose lost their jobs until the middle of 1993. The unemployment grew to huge dimensions. The old-new bourgeoisie started to buy up the lands, and the less purchasable land remained, the more their value became. According to a reliable source, the value of the co-operative wealth was 260 billion forints, which was 15 percent of the value of the national-bourgeois property. In 1993 the obligation to employment ceased to exist, and suddenly 300 000 people remained without jobs. The household plot became forbidden (the people try to evade the law). In fact, apart from the spectacle of the "rich Hungarian soil", for the agricultural workers remained only the eternal proletarian lease - misery. The dynasties of small and large farmers - which we can know from the works of the "peasant writers", who wrote about the Hungarian countryside during the fascist period - returned, and the army of wage-workers, begging for work in order to exist, from the slave of the state became the slave of the "gentry-bourgeois". In this situation, those individual producers who work without employing alien labour, are exceptions to some extent. They also demonstrate together with the farmers but for different reasons: they would like to avoid starvation, misery and coffin. The situation gradually becomes worse and worse. The are informations about a one-legged beggar who had also his second leg cut, believing that this way the people become more charitable. Is this the absurdity of capitalist world? - No, this is the reality of capitalism. The positions of the landowner-bourgeoisie also get worse, and after the entry of Hungary into the EU they will drop behind in the concurrency struggle, and they protest against the loosing of their footing. That's why the tractors were rumbling on the streets of Budapest. The farmers' demonstrations take place regularly, there was hardly a spring in the past few years, when they could calmly go hunting. The failed "Small Farmers' Party" dissolved into the various far right parties, the "peasant king" József Torgyán (the former leader of this party) "sacrificed his political career" and now he is a lawyer again, leaving the ruling class of the countryside without chief. The demonstrations of the last year were continued this year in February, the executioners of the working class of villages gasp for breath, they started to feel fear from becoming proletarianized, so they jumped - or let their wage-workers jump - to the tractors.

The army of the millionaire farmers (owing more than 30-35 hectares of land) blames the left-wing government for its position, for the fall of its living standard, for the narrowing of its markets. Of course, they must call the whole of their class to account for all this (this is a typical case of big fish - small fish), but how could they do that? And even if they would do so - we have nothing to do with this. We are not disturbed by the fact that the hyenas of capital gobble up each other. But first of all we have to pay the prices of bread, of meat and of milk, and we, the proletarians are obliged to pay for the inner quarrels of the bourgeoisie. So the working class must wake up and not demand, but destroy the empire of capital. In the concurrency struggle of the accu-

mulation and distribution of capital, once more the living space of the working class becomes smaller and smaller. The class of the paupers, the landless agricultural proletariat thinks to be tied to its "masters", and expects help from them. But it's time to come round for our class: we can expect from the capitalists and their system only humiliation, frozen potato and vegetables, plonk and bad tobacco, raising of prices and rape of proletarian women, high taxes, exorbitant electricity bills, ruined human relations, wasted life, alcoholism, suicide, unemployment, homelessness, alienation and another beautiful life-elixires...

We have already referred to the "peasant writers": in the realism of their descriptions we can meet also our present reality. The right-wing oppositional parties in the parliament and their fascist squads out of it egg the farmers against the government. The farmers are their puppets, and the propaganda slogans of the next year's elections already loom ahead. The left-wing government stole what it could steal, and "forgot" to share the juicy titbit with the opposition. Many people think that "the farmers are the victims of the agrarian politics of the EU". This is not true, they are the victims of the capitalist system - they lose the concurrency struggle and grow poor, they are the beggars of tomorrow. But once more: we don't have anything to do with the problems of any part of the bourgeoisie. A recent analysis says: "Their production is more expensive, because they are necessarily short in capital; in buildings, in equipment, in expertise. Their characteristics are the big demand on capital, high manufacturing cost, low efficiency, and they aren't capable to produce high quality unified commodities in big extent. They swallow up the money of the taxpayers just like a bottomless barrel." That's why they demand the EU-subsidies, which is distributed now by the left-wing government. They will receive (or, at least, they seem to receive) 74 billion forints from the EU-source and 92 billions from the governmental budget. It would be urgent for them, but the government ran into debt and pays gradually - such way it fills in the gap which occurred after their stealings...

In our writing we usually called the capitalism of Kadar "state capitalism". In the reality, this is not a right concept, since in the Formula 1 of capitalism the workshops are above the state power, and the state can only try to sit on them and rule the movement of capital. This was the main reason for the collapse of the bolshevik area. The "domino principle" works: if the economy is not prosperous, we will be the victims. In spite of this, we are not interested - as the social democrats like to tell - in the establishment of the "welfare system". But how did the old communist say: The proletarians have nothing to lose but their chains!

Barricade Collective,
March of 2005

FIRST MEETING OF ALL-POLISH TRADE UNION "WORKERS' INITIATIVE"

In Poznan the Delegates of All-Polish Trade Union "Workers' Initiative", that was founded last year, met for the first time. Since 2001 as "Workers' Initiative" we have tried to reactivate a workers movement, built on a basis of liberation movement traditions, opposite both to the capital and to today's system of governing. The process of creating a new trade union is another step in that way. Our trade union has decided to create its structures in the

next 2 years, which could effectively defend workers and organize everyday struggle for their rights. We would like our Trade Union to take part in the fight for new order that would guarantee pluralism and democratic rights, work and good payment for it.

We are conscious of the difficulties. Today our trade union still has very few number of participants; they take part in 9 plant commissions and environmental ones in Poznan,

Lodz, Szczecin, Silesia. But we cooperate very closely with other trade unions and social organizations (most importantly with unemployed people); also we take part in organizing All-polish Workers' Conferences.

We would like to send our honest greetings to all trade unions and organizations supporting syndicalist movement, especially our friends from German FAU and NoService, Swedish SAC and Spanish CGT, with whom we cooperate every day. We thank them for their help and we send them our solidarity.

"EXPLOITATION OF THE CONTEMPORARY LABOUR WORLD"

4TH ALL-POLAND'S WORKERS' CONFERENCE

11-12.06.2005 Warsaw - Poland

Fourth edition of All-Poland's Workers' Conference is devoted to the subject *"exploitation of contemporary labour world"*. We want to discuss this issue in four main thematic blocks:

"Contemporary situation of Polish working class" - an analysis of the situation of the working class in Poland, in context of system transformation, government's policies, changes in the structure of economy, the material situation of Polish society, globalisation processes and the situation of trade union movements.

"Workers and workers protests in media" - a speech and discussion about the issue of the presentation of workers' protests in media. The problems of anti-trade unions, anti-worker liberal propaganda and the ways of resisting it will be especially discussed.

"Situation of women on contemporary labour market - exploitation and humiliation" - an analysis of the situation of women on labour market devoted both to the common problems of all workers and to specific forms of exploitation that affect women only (molestation, sexual exploitation) with a discussion on the ways of resisting the exploitation of women.

"Alternative ways of management and ownership of factories/workplaces" - presentation of a few, alternative ways of management and ownership that differ from private companies with a discussion on the possibilities of introducing such solutions in Poland.

In that way, we want to discuss and analyse the most important workers' problems and to initiate the discussion about the ways of resisting the exploitation of workers. First aim we want to achieve through first, second and third blocks, the last problem will be signalled in fourth block.

The programme of Fourth All Poland Workers' Conference is open to everybody who wishes to participate in it - we encourage the sending to us of propositions of speeches/topics.

(This is only a general programme - hours and organisation of the points may change)

2005. 06. 11 /Saturday

10:00 - Opening of the conference. Presentations of the participants and the programme of the conference.

I. The situation of Polish working class

10:30 - Piotr Zuk "Situation of the Polish working class and political divisions in Poland"

11:00 - Jaroslaw Urbanski "Situation of the workers and working conditions in [concerns]"

11:30 - 12:30 - Discussion: "How to efficiently fight for workers' rights in contemporary conditions?"

Break

II. Workers and workers' protests in media

13:00 - Piotr Ciszewski "Workers and workers' protests in media"

13:30 - 14:30 - Discussion: "How to counteract the negative vision of workers and trade unions in media?"

14:30 - 16:00 Lunch-break

III. Situation of women in contemporary labour market

16:00 - Introduction to discussion

16:30 - 17:00 - Presentation of women's situation in a few chosen factories/workplaces: speeches that have been confirmed so far.

★ Representatives of the food industry (Goplana Poznan)

★ Representatives of the heavy industry (Cegielski Poznan)

★ Representatives of the health and social services (Trade Union of Nurses and Midwives from Warsaw, Group Therapy Workshops from Poznan, Dega Hospital Poznan)

18:00 - 19:00 - discussion: "How to efficiently resist the exploitation of women?"

2005.06.12 /Sunday

IV. Alternative forms of management and ownership of factories/workplaces

11:00 - "Zanon belongs to the workers" - a movie about the workers take-over of control, over the production in a ceramic factory during the crisis in Argentina.

12:00 - 13:00 - of few chosen alternative forms of ownership and management of production

13:00 - 14:00 - Discussion on the propositions in the speeches

14:00 - Closing of the Conference and discussion on 5th All-Poland's Workers' Conference

WHAT ARE ALL-POLAND'S WORKERS' CONFERENCES?

All-Poland's Workers' Conferences are regular meetings of people interested in labour issues and the activists of workers movements, trade unionists, social activists, representatives of the press and the NGO's and activists of left and anarchists movements. They are concerned about the most important problems of the workers - in Poland and in whole world.

Every Conference is a cycle of speeches, discussions and meetings that concentrate over one or more issues. On the conference one also attempts to start a co-operation between different groups and plans joint initiatives and campaigns.

The formula of the Conferences is open and democratic - they are prepared by a very broad coalition of different activists and every meeting is open for everybody interested in its issues. Every conference is prepared by the Organising Committee, which is chosen at the previous conference by all the people involved. Thanks to that method, the Conferences can not be used by any group for its own purposes and everybody interested can participate in the decision-making process.

See also: www.syndykalista.org/okp

SEE PAGE 29 FOR REPORT OF THE 3rd ALL-POLAND'S WORKERS' CONFERENCE

ANTI-FASCIST NEWS



BELARUS

"What was the well-known neo-Nazi doing among the policemen in civilian clothes and why did they grab people pointed out by him?"

NAZIS ATTACK YOUNG PEOPLE AFTER ROCK CONCERT IN MINSK

On March 16, 2005 a group of 20-30 nazi-skinheads, presumably with the support of policemen in civilian clothes, attacked young people who were returning after a rock concert that took place in the Minsk club "Leo". As a result of the conflict three visitors of the concert were hospitalized: two of them received knife wounds, the third sustained cranio-cerebral injury. A 15-year-old boy, who received a knife stab in his back, was taken to the Children's Surgery Center. On March 16 there was a large rock event in the club "Leo". Among the numerous audiences there were journalists from major TV-channels and the press of Belarus (the First Musical Channel, the newspaper "Komsomolskaya Pravda v Belorussii", etc.)

An hour and a half before the end of the concert a man in civilian clothes came up to the organizer of the event, introduced himself as a policeman and warned about a group of aggressive nazi-skinheads being near the club. Also he advised the visitors to not go out of the club. After that he walked around the club and then left. The concert successfully continued and ended about 21:30 when the first visitors started to leave. When people got out to the front steps, at a distance of 15 meters they noticed a group of 20-30 nazi-skinheads armed with bludgeons, and, as it turned out later, knives. The nazis first tried to attack a company of 5-8 girls and boys going home but the young people managed to hide in the club, having run into the lobby. Guards immediately blocked the entrance to the building. By that time alarmed visitors had gathered in the lobby and simultaneously poured into the street where they were repeatedly attacked by the nazis and had to defend themselves. During the fight Maksim Sh. of 15 years received a knife stab in his back; Artyom K. was badly wounded with two knife stabs in his liver. The third person was hospitalized with head injury. Some more people sustained minor injuries. After the assault the nazis, who hadn't expected to meet with an adequate rebuff, ran away.

The injured were carried into the building, and people called in an ambulance while rendering medical care as best they could. Later the young people noticed a group of nazi-skinheads to all appearance on the other side of Skoryna Ave. (near the club). According to some witnesses there was a man with a video-camera among them. This group of people were coming confidently across the avenue taking out weapons in an emphatic manner. A part of the concert visitors following the instinct of self-preservation tried to hide in the club making a throng by the entrance. At this moment the group of armed people fired a gas weapon. There were at least two shots. The club's premises, especially the lobby where the injured people were, was filled with gas.

As it turned out these people were policemen in civilian clothes (they showed their documents, and some of them were also later seen in the night in the Pervomayskii Department of Inner Affairs - one of the city's police departments, and they held police portable radio transmitters), and among them there was a well-known Minsk neo-nazi and football hooligan Aleksandr "Footballer" Shcherbich, who was pointing a finger at some people among the concert visitors. The policemen in civilian clothes tried to use force on the people pointed out, but the crowd became indig-

nant and the guys pointed out were left alone by the police.

Some time later the man who warned the organizers about the possible assault of the nazis, was seen again in the club and this time he wore "strange" clothes - the nazi-skinheads wore clothes like that. By that time several police cars drove up to the club, most likely they had been called by the club's administration with an "alarm button". And only after 10 minutes after the police's arrival the ambulance appeared - it took them 40 minutes to come after the call! The police conducted themselves very easy, calmly and didn't show any surprise at all the things that had happened. The policemen in civilian clothes, who had just fired at the crowd, were even speaking to the troops that had arrived.

Later in the night the two injured guys were operated on and at the moment they are in a satisfactory condition. To our knowledge 7 nazi-skinheads were detained for participation in the attack. The Main Department of Internal Affairs of Minsk City Executive Committee reports about several detained persons and opening of a criminal case for hooliganism. The words "fascist", "skinhead", etc. don't appear in the case. Also it mentions that among the assaulters there were nazis not only from Minsk but from other Belarusian cities as well which allows us to draw a conclusion that the action was planned.

We as participants and witnesses of the events have a range of natural questions:

- * why didn't the police prevent the conflict, although they had information about the possibility of attack?
- * how to explain the shooting with gas weapon at the concert visitors, who were not aggressors in the conflict?
- * what was the well-known neo-nazi doing among the policemen in civilian clothes and why did they grab people pointed by him?
- * why did it take so long for police troops and the ambulance to come to the place of the attack?
- * was it a provocation by the government and what did it have as its object?

RUSSIA

NAZI ASSAULT ON THE TRAIN

There was a concert on Sunday 3th of April in Dubna of Moscow region, upon return to Moscow around 23:30 nazis organised an ambush in local train where members of groups Tushka, Teni Svobody and Elpiskas were travelling. Around 15-20 nazis came armed with bottles and iron bars, in a well-planned attack in almost empty train only 3 persons managed to escape and all the rest were trashed. There are several broken legs and hands, Vladislav Tarasov who plays bass in Shlyuz and Tushka has open skull fracture and is in a coma in a serious condition.

NAZI ACTIVITIES IN MOSCOW ABOUT TO SHUT DOWN THE ACTIVITIES OF LOCAL LEFTIST ANTI- AUTHORITARIAN YOUTH?!

As the Nazi interest to anarchist activity in Moscow remains high, the activists are seriously thinking about not announcing smaller pickets beforehand any more (except to media), and even of withdrawing from organising such actions altogether. Recently there was a small picket against abrogation of laws regulating

freedom from army impressments, sort of one-person initiative joined by soldiers' mothers. Some 10 bone-heads came looking for "Autonomous Action" which in some sources was mistakenly announced as one of the organisers. Nobody admitted being from Autonomous Action, and eventually Nazis were content with Sieg-heils and "death to communism"-shouts to some 20-30 mostly elderly women.

Some time before that Nazis attempted to organise a big pogrom in Kirov where anarcho-oi! group Clowns was about to perform, they had a big mobilization from Moscow, Yekaterinburg, Syktyvkar, Perm... from about a 1000 km radius. However they managed to beat only one person and eventually some 80 Nazis were arrested.

Nazis also claim to have gathered a mob of 120 people in Moscow the previous Saturday for "pre-arranged" meeting "fair play 20 to 20" where no Antifas eventually showed up (little surprise). Nazis seem not to figure out that Antifa does not play those football scene games. The number of 120 could be exaggeration; they haven't been able to bring such a posse since Trarystino pogrom of 2001.

However the question remains, if the lack of the regular small actions/pickets in Moscow will not lead to the deeper political stagnation within the anti-authoritarian leftwing youth in the Russian Capitol.

CONCERT 13TH OF APRIL FOR VICTIMS OF NAZI VIOLENCE

On the 13th of April there was a benefit concert in club SEXTON in Moscow for punks who suffered from the nazi assault in a local train on the 3rd of April, first of all for Vlad Tarasov, bass-guitarist of group "Shlyuz" (www.shlyuz.ru), who got an open skull fracture from an iron bar, he spent 2 days in a coma and is still in a bad condition. Organisers of the concert wanted it to be apolitical; advertisement had not a single word about fascists - this differently from a much more political concert which was planned for 19th of April (see ad at <http://www.avtonom.org/ing/antifa-afi.gif>). However that concert could not take place, since club AVANT unexpectedly cancelled event for "unknown reasons", in other words after being called from the FSB (Russian secret police).

600-800 people were in concert in club Sexton, not too many since headliner "Tarakany" is an MTV band and the concert was promoted by oppositional radio channel echo Moskvy among others. Perhaps people were afraid of fascist attacks, and they had a reason - although many nazis were unhappy because of "mindless violence against Russians". 3rd of April, nazis still managed to bring a mob of about 100 people. But there were lots of pigs around, and eventually Nazis dispersed without organising anything. Small group of nazis got arrested, and during the day other small groups were confronted with a "constructive dialogue" by antifa.

Antifascist-anarchists took the chance to make a speech and distribute some 500 leaflets, but the bands themselves also spoke against fascism (which perhaps did not make the organisers too happy). Exit from the club was organised unusually well by efforts of antifa. Although in the end nothing happened on the way to metro, the days when 5 nazis could disperse a crowd of 100 punks are hopefully history now.

Below - international account for transferring money for victims of the Nazi assault, and a translation of the anarchist leaflet. The leaflet may seem bit strange from anarchist point of view, but it has a specific target audience. It was making much more sense to encourage kids in Moscow to organise on their own than to create some structure that would be immediately destroyed by FSB and Nazis. Nazi terror is so suc-

cessful because it applies a theory of "decentralized resistance": the answering strategy should be the same.

(Only transfer US dollars to this account)

Receiver's correspondent
IRVTUS3N
BANK OF NEW YORK, NEW YORK, NY, USA
Account With Institution
SABRRUMM
SBERBANK, MOSCOW, (HEAD OFFICE-ALL
RUSSIAN OFFICES AND
BRANCHES)
Beneficiary customer
Beneficiary account/42307.840/0.3817.0000686
Name /Smirnov Alexey Vjacheslavovich
Address /1,328, Slaviansky boulevard, Moscow,
121352, Russia

★ ★ ★

BUSINESS OF US ALL

There are no "mistaken" victims of nazi violence - everyone among us is a potential victim. We all are illegal immigrants, skinheads, homeless alcoholics, hip-hoppers, punks, queers, hippies, disabled, metallist, meshket-turks, straight-edger's or women; all of us deserve the hate of "patriotic citizens". All of us are a shame to our motherland. If you are not "flushed down the toilet" today, your turn will be tomorrow. A nazi iron bar in our brains - it is just another kiss from the regime of Putin and the oligarchs. The system, in which you have just as much value as you may bring profit to your employer, creates dirt, which is most willing to kill all those who do not conform. Being a victim is first of all a certain type of mentality. If you just let your head down and lick your wounds, and hope that next time they will come for someone else, they will come for you for sure.

AUTONOMOUS ANTIFA

It is not a movement, but a phenomenon. It is every ripped nazi-sticker, every covered swastika and celtic-cross, every kicked nazi ass. It is an opposite of any hierarchies, opposite of everything what Nazism represents, opposite of any orders - it is business between you and your close friends only. It is love against hate. It is not an avant-garde of tough fighters, because bravery is not equal to conscience. It does not play by rules, since murderers of 6 year old girls also do not play. There is no administration, no structure - only solidarity. Nor any financing: liberal "anti-fascist" NGO's, living by grants, always shat their pants before they got to any real business. These puppies are not a solution to the problem, just as the solution will not be in the hands of bureaucrats, cops or politicians. We will ask nothing from them, because we are not living for power, but for freedom. And in order to reach it, we have nothing but our resistance. And you, friend, will not be able to contact with us, looking for our address - because we are everywhere, and perhaps you have already joined us!

ANARCHIST BLACK CROSS

ACK/ABC POLAND

FREE Tomek WILKOSZEWSKI NOW!

Tomek Wilkoszewski was sentenced to 15 years imprisonment for participating in a fight with neonazis during which one of the nazis died. Tomek has been jailed since March 1996. he is entitled and has got full right to contest for pre-term release before his sentence will finish. At the moment he's trying to do that. Thus its very important to support his efforts with letters, petitions etc., because they can largely influence the court's decision. If you want to help him (private persons and organisations) just send a letter to this address:

SAD OKREGOWY
III WYDZIAŁ PENITENCJARNY I NADZORU
NAD WYKONANIEM ORZECZEN KARNYCH
AL.ZWYCIESTWA 1. 98-200 SIERADZ,
POLSKA

We/I mentioned that we want to support Tomek Wilkoszewski in his entitlement to contest for pre-term release from prison where he's sentenced to 15 years imprisonment. Tomek Wilkoszewski finished secondary school in prison with a very good result on the main exam. For some time he has been working in the penal colony in Sieradz. We know why Tomek Wilkoszewski is in prison, but we now stand in a position that he proved by his attitude that he's ready to go back to society.
Please consider his efforts and our request.

Here is an account where you can give money (in EURO) to help Tomek

BIGBPLPWXXX 34116022020000000029384984

You can sign the on-line petition as well. We are still trying to get the early release of Tomek Wilkoszewski. A new petition campaign is going on around Poland and we hope to get 500 international supporters as well. Please pass this on.

<http://www.petitiononline.com/tomwilko/petition.html>

★ ★ ★

GOOD LUCK PATRYK !

Patryk Cichon, anarchist from Stalowa Wola in Poland, who had been recently sentenced to 3 years of prison didn't report himself to the prison and therefore is currently on the run from authorities. Good luck comrade!!!



ABC TURKEY

Gay, anarchist, and total objector Mehmet Tarhan is taken into custody by the police force in Izmir, while he was staying in a hotel and sent to military bureau. Now Mehmet Tarhan is insisting on his civil disobedience action and if necessary, he will start a hunger strike. In Istanbul, Ankara and Izmir groups are formed to support Mehmet Tarhan and are working organising a big campaign.

One of the discussion points nowadays is to make total objection announcements totally. The results of our discussions and content of campaigns will be announced on anarchist and anti-militarist websites.

Military and civil fascist organisations have started to attack Kurds, trying to lynch leftist groups on the streets, even the bureau of DEHAP (a legal political party for the rights of Kurds) and of leftist groups are shown as places to be attacked. All these reactionary acts are legitimised by the news that two children aged 12 have tried to burn the Turkish flag at Mersin.

Anarchists and antimilitarists are also affected by this racist wave. Mehmet Tarhan who is taken into custody will be sent to a military unit in a day (now we learned that he is at his way), and will be forced to serve as a soldier.

As far as we are informed about the discussions held in the bureau, Turkish military force is determined to attack all total and conscientious objectors living in Turkey, and make us obey their rules. So, we as antimilitarist people are expecting to confront a very difficult period. It is very likely to experience mass trials nowadays.

For this reason we are calling all the anarchist, antiauthoritarian and antimilitarist groups living in other countries to arrange actions and campaigns to repress the Turkish state. If we can't resist against the wave, the anarchist and antimilitarist movement of this country will lose its effect.

In order to prevent this danger, all the antimilitarist and antiauthoritarian groups gathered together as the first step of a long campaign. We expect our comrades to support and act with us.

We know that they can't stop us by imprisoning, killing or ignoring. Revolution is everywhere, and nothing will suppress it!

For detailed info:

<http://www.anarsi.org>

<http://www.savaskarsitlari.org>

For contact: mail@anarsi.org

TOTAL OBJECTION OF MEHMET:

On 27 October 2001, two antimilitarists from Ankara, Mehmet Tarhan and Erdem Yalcankaya, declared their conscientious objection (to compulsory military service) at a press conference held at the Human Rights Association (IHD). The libertarian

ANARCHIST BLACK CROSS

gay&lesbian group "Kaos GL", the "Initiative against War and Domination" from Istanbul and the IHD also declared their support for conscientious objection at the same venue.

A few hours later a group of (approximately 25) anarchists walked through the city center of Ankara, holding banners and chanting slogans. The unauthorized demonstration continued with the pronouncement of the groups' anti-war manifest and ended without any detention or police intervention.

CO DECLARATION OF MEHMET TARHAN

The bombs that were thrown on the Afghan people just yesterday and will be thrown on the Iraqi people tomorrow are deceptively associated with the planes that crashed the Twin Towers on September 11, with the death of thousands and with the armament of Iraq. Thereby the whole world is expected to join the assaults on those people. I curse every kind of violence and believe that joining or condoning violence is only leading to new violent incidents and makes everybody involved responsible concerning the subsequent trauma. I think that wars caused by power mongering states are first and foremost a violation of the right to live. The violation of the right to live is a crime against humanity and no international convention or law can justify this crime, regardless of any rationale. I therefore declare that I won't be an agent of such crime under any circumstances. I will not serve any military apparatus.

I long for a humanity, which has left power scheming behind, has abandoned borders and lives in harmony with nature and is non-violent. The practical absence of this notion does not necessitate dropping my struggle to promote it.

I don't believe in the necessity of the institution called state and I don't feel loyalty to any state. I never will, as actions presented as duties of citizenship lead to a strengthened military structure. The state, which claims that I am its citizen, wants to recruit me for its own sake. It wants to train me into a tool of war, which can die and kill for its master, moreover it wants to incorporate me. I won't let this happen and will preserve my beliefs. The possibility to be out mustered by a "rotten report" as a gay, which is presented to me as a... nothing else than prove how... order itself is.

As an individual I am determined not to take part in the army or another... of any state. I would perceive it as... insult to myself and to humanity to offer a pretext and refuse therefore an adjournment or a permission to be mustered out.

In conclusion, I will never enter military service. And I appeal to everybody: Refuse military service; don't go through any bureaucratic process regarding draft and military service, refuse control mechanism as MERNIS and tax IDs, show solidarity with non-

violent actions.

* The way to stop war is to deprive it from its human resources.

* Any kind of violence is a crime against humanity.

Mehmet Tarhan

(1. Literal translation of the "certificate for disability for discharge"; 2. MERNIS is the new electronic registration system, which aims to unite a variety of personal information under one roof and to make it therefore easier to trace whereabouts, characteristics, etc. of "citizens" by the state forces)

ABC-RUSSIA

Our comrade Aleksander "Miller" Tomenko needs your help!

20 year old anarchist from Rostov-na-Donu, Aleksander Tomenko has been in remand prison 61/1 GUIN of Rostov region since late March, sued by a nazi who claims that Aleksander assaulted him. Miller is from a poor family, and funds must be raised both for costs of lawyer (500 \$) and to provide him food and cigarettes in prison (at least 20\$ monthly), since Russian authorities do not provide food for prisoners. Unfortunately, there is no way to write to Miller in remand prison, but we hope to get him out to await trial by legal means. Also currently relatives of Miller who are bearing the main burden of the defence, are not convinced about benefits of a public political defence campaign - we hope that they reconsider this position, but until then we will mostly work with raising funds for Miller.

Who is "Miller"?

Born to a poor family, Miller had to feed himself after 9th grade. He has worked in countless unskilled jobs since then - as a warehouseman, welder, construction hand, paver and many others. In the anarchist movement since 2002, he first came in contact with anarchists in a pit town of Shahty, where he was also arrested after an anarchist action. Miller has been involved in Rostov in groups such as Autonomous Action, Rainbow Keepers, Federation of Anarcho-Communists and Federation of Revolutionary Anarchists. Many remember... from the 2003 Azov ecological protest... against the methanol export terminal, constructed with the involvement of an Italian multinational Triboldi. Up to 9000 people joined in protest actions in this city of 90 000, 45 kilometers south from Rostov, and the last two years construction has been halted, although final victory is anything but sure. Miller lived in the protest camp for a month, and actually it was him who originally found the site where camp was to be located.

This is not the first quarrel of Miller with the far-right - in the past, he has had his leg and nose broken and ear ragged during dif-

ferent encounters with fascists.

You may transfer money to support group in Rostov directly by referring to name and passport information of the receiver.

The bank from which you are sending money should figure out, which of the following information is relevant when transferring money from your location. Note that you may transfer only euros or US dollars.

Updates about the case of miller will be posted to site <http://www.avtonom.org/news/miller.html> in Russian and English, here you may also see a photo of Aleksander. Another photo of Aleksander is available on the Site <http://www.avtonom.org/news/0434.html>

If you donate, please also drop a note to Moscow Anarchist Black Cross, spt2003@email.com, in order for us to have some idea if our fundraising objectives are about to be met. In case you transfer dollars, use the following requisites:

Joint Stock Bank
Moscow Bank For Reconstruction And Development
Moscow, Russia
Swift: MBRD RU MM
COR.ACC. 400806673 JP MORGAN
CHASE BANK
NEW YORK, USA
SWIFT: CHASUS 33
IN FAVOR ROSTOV BRANCH, ROSTOV-ON-DON

(And note that receiver will be Dimitri Leonidovitch Kulagin, passport number 60 05 308647)

In case you are transferring euros, use the following requisites:

Joint Stock Bank
Moscow Bank For Reconstruction And Development
Moscow, Russia
Swift: MBRD RU MM, in favor Rostov Branch
COR.ACC. 400888042900EUR
KommerzBank, AG
SWIFT COBA DE FF
Kaiserplatz, POB 60261 Frankfurt,
Frankfurt am Main, Germany
RAIFFEISEN ZENTRALBANK OESTER-REICH AG,
Vienna, Austria
SWIFT: RZBAATWW

(And note that receiver will be Dimitri Leonidovitch Kulagin, passport number 60 05 308647)



(LATE) REPORT FROM THE 3'RD ALL-POLAND' WORKERS' CONFERENCE

6-7 OF NOVEMBER 2004; LODZ

The Third All-Polish Workers' Conference took place in Lodz on the 6-7 of November 2004. The organisers of the conference were: Lodz and Poznan sections of Inicjatywa

Pracownicza/Federacja Anarchistyczna (IP/FA - Workers Initiative of Anarchist Federation), Grupa na rzecz Partii Robotniczej (GPR - Group for Workers Party) and Czerwony Kolektyw - Lewicowa Alternatywa (CK-LA - Red Collective - Left Alternative). In the meeting attended workers-representatives of: Huta Cegielski (Poznan), Goplana-Nestle (Poznan), Warsztaty Terapii Zajeciowej (Therapy Workshops, Poznan), Uniontex (Lodz), public transport workers from Warsaw and Gdansk, ZOZ (medical care centre Elk), Huty Cynku (Zink Blast Furnace, Miasteczko Slaskie), Prokonstal (Szczecin), SM Mieszko (Lodz), who represented various trade unions - Sierpień'80 (August 80) Inicjatywa Pracownicza (IP - Workers Initiative), Solidarnosc (Solidarity), Konfederacja Pracy (Confederation of Labour), Związek Zawodowy Budowlani (Trade Union The Builders) and Związek Zawodowy Pracowników Komunikacji Miejskiej (Trade Union of City Communication Workers). In the conference also took part representatives of OZB (Polish Nation-wide Unemployed Union) from Elk and Lodz and also associations (of people in pre-retirement age, ATTAC Poland). Among invited guests were members of workers' organisations and trade unions from Spain (CGT), Germany (FAU, No service, Wildcat), Sweden (SAC), USA, Great Britain (TGWU) and Italy. In the meeting attended over 100 people. The media patron of the conference was Nowy Robotnik (New Worker magazine).

The main subject of the conference was the issue of preparing successful workers' protests. Concerning the strategy of fight against multinationals spoke Dominik Sawicki (IP/FA Szczecin), who presented methods of resistance among McDonalds' workers and Dariusz Skrzypczak (Goplana-Nestle, Solidarnosc), who referred to the latest Nestle's products boycott.

Foreign guests presented campaigns held by their organisations. Lotta Holmberg from Swedish anarcho-syndicalist trade union SAC and Jesus Reyero with Angel Bosqued - Spanish anarcho-syndicalists from CGT (General Confederation of Labour) - spoke about methods of running a campaign among emigrants. Participants of the Conference decided, that it is necessary to start common

actions in order to improve the situation of Poles working in the EU countries. With the support of the west-European trade unions, the information campaign on the workers' rights and opportunities of organising into trade unions, is going to be prepared and distributed among potential emigrants (seasonal workers). A brochure has been already prepared by the IP and German FAU. By the first quarter of the next year similar info will have been prepared about the situation in Sweden (co-operation of IP and SAC). Attendants agreed that in april or may 2005 there should be organised common information campaign addressed to polish seasonal workers and emigrants. This action is also going to be introduced to workers from the East (Belarus, Ukraine) whose workers rights are violated in Poland. This action is going to be prepared by IP and CK-LA.

The subject of local co-operation between the workers movement, social organisations and the unemployed was conferred by Ludwik Olezyk and Barbara Radziejewicz from OZB. They presented the situation of the unemployed in Poland. They also talked about the intention of engaging the unemployed in various organisations in order to overcome their inertia, especially in small towns. The speakers pointed that it is necessary to break the neo-liberal propaganda that attempts to generate a conflict between workers and the unemployed, stating that the latter are jobless only because of the workers resistance against liberalisation of the labour law. Darek Zalega (from New Worker magazine) presented the situation in Silesia, where various groups are joining miners protests. Listeners were amused, hearing that these days demonstrations are supported by those politics, which several years ago treated coal mines as primitive, giant, ineffective plants.

The next issue was the project of the workers councils act. The question concerning the impact of this law on polish workers was considered, especially because the workers are mostly unorganised (only 14 - 18 % of them are trade unions members). The attendants agreed that this act gives only a restrained form of workers participation in company managing. Marcel Szary from H. Cegielski Poznan pointed out that workers mentality and consciousness is restrained, which can change the act into a completely dead-law. However, it was stated that the act may start the process of democratisation and inspire workers to direct more attention to their issues. Zbigniew Kowalewski introdu-

ced two models of councils functioning and pointed out that especially in Spain, workers councils increase the activity of trade unions' structures. It was also stated that this kind of solution - although it is not very probable to be introduced in Poland - could activate a workers movement. In summary, it was stated, that it is worth demanding as big a competence for the councils as possible.

The last subject of the program was a discussion "Whether striking is an effective method for fighting for workers rights?" - with the introduction by Rob Williams (TGWU and also Committee for Workers International). Before Rob's speech, Florian Nowicki (GPR) pointed out the meaning of the workers-strike democracy and its impact on strike's effectiveness (with the examples of Fiat in Melfi in Italy and the protests in Oзарow factory). Rob Williams emphasised that striking is a very effective method for fighting for workers rights. He also showed in brief, the history of strikes in Great Britain in the 80's and 90's. (ex. the history of miners strikes) He concluded with humorous examples of capitalist economy absurdity. A very interesting debate, which started after Rob's speech, unfortunately ended too early because of the time limits. In the discussion participated: Andrzej Smosarski (CK-LA), Darek Zalega (New Worker magazine), Stanislaw Stencel (City Communications Workers Trade Union, Gdansk) and Thomas (FAU from Germany).

During the conference, there was also time to present the contemporary situation of workers, including the fight of Warsaw tram drivers (described by Grzegorz Kupis from Sierpień'80) and Uniontex workers (described by Sławomir Kaczmarek from IP). Christopher Phelps (co-operator of various magazines - such as: Against The Current, Monthly Review, Historical Materialism, Science & Society) briefly told about the situation of the workers movement in US.

Participants agreed that the Fourth All-Poland' Workers' Conference will be held in June next year in Warsaw and that one of the main issues considered will be problems and questions about delocalisation - of factories and protests. The organising committee was chosen.

REPORT FROM SQUATTING IN BUDAPEST WITH AK57

Already over half a year ago the first attempt of political squatting in Budapest since years started. Even though the house was evicted after only 2 weeks and this without any big resistance from the inhabitants (surely due to their lack of experience) we feel that it was a very important step. Also some of the squatters got "infected" by the spirit of communal living&acting, so they went on with a legal house/center project: AK 57. We hope that this project will go on and others (also new squats) will emerge. (ABB)



On Friday the 30th of October 2004, squatters occupied the Centrum, formerly the Uttoró Aruház (pioneer shopping mall), a vast former supermarket in the centre of Budapest. Teams of people connected water and power, built kitchens and loungerooms, and redecorated walls that were covered in 1980s porn with art, posters, and slogans in Hungarian, English, Spanish and Italian. An exhibition of found objects from the space includes transparencies of communist propaganda and ancient safety messages. Days of cleaning were followed by evenings of intense discussion. Within a week the space was converted into an infoshop, cafe, cinema, gallery, freeshop, library and residence. The building has been here since the end of the 19th century and was a supermarket from that time until 2001, since then it has been empty. Budapest squatters are, in part, campaigning for their right to housing. There are many abandoned buildings in Budapest and 30,000 people are homeless; with winter approaching the lack of housing is life-threatening. In addition the squatters are working to create a social and cultural space and a place to organise established projects such as food not bombs, indymedia, and other cultural and political collectives. Centrum squat opened its doors to the public on Sunday,

7 November with a cafe, music performance, and screening of films about squatting and the history of Budapest as well as exhibitions about the building and other vacant properties. With a warm reception from neighbours and the community, the occupiers had high hopes of staying in the space. Many representatives of mainstream and independent media were invited to the opening and the squatters made the nightly news and front-page news in both major Budapest newspapers with very positive stories about the opening of a much needed cultural centre. On Monday morning the squatters presented their case to a representative of the owner of the building. His response was generally positive and he agreed that the squat was important, but, not surprisingly, claimed that the building is condemned and unsafe and has to be evacuated. The squatters are attempting to negotiate for the use of the space based on getting an independent safety consultant as well as legal assistance to prove to the local government, which is legally responsible for declaring the building unsafe, that it is habitable, but the council does not sit until after the eviction. Security guards have been posted to the building and the squatters have been given a deadline to leave - by Thursday morning. Police are trying to establish whether or not the squatters have permission to be here, and examining the passports of all present.

This is the first squat in Budapest in many years. People here are just beginning to understand how the system works and how best to go about occupation and defense. They are also rapidly learning the skills needed to transform abandoned buildings and organise autonomously, and it has been a very empowering process. The media campaign has successfully introduced the idea of squatting in Hungary. With numbers here being small, there is little chance of physically resisting eviction by the Hungarian police. The squatters are fighting for this space as much as they can but eviction seems certain. In that case there are plenty more empties in Budapest and the squatters here have made good contacts with media, local government and organisations such as architects campaigning to preserve the historic Jewish quarter of Budapest. The lessons learned

in the occupation of Centrum will make the next ten squats ten times stronger!

Our squat was evicted in two weeks. On one hand it's a shame that we didn't manage to fight against the will of the property owner, or/and against the police, but on the other hand this was our first try, we've learned a lot, and fallen in love with community life, anarchism in practice. Now we run a place called AK57. Actually it's a legal place, but the mentality is squat mentality. Some of us live here, many others use it for their programs, activities, meetingpoint and so on. When we started we planned to make a place like a "headquarters" for the squat movement, but we didn't succeed. Budapest is a shitty place and we need plenty of work to make work it better.

AK 57:
indymedia.hu/foglalthaz
ak57@indymedia.hu

and the address is:
1074 Budapest,
Dohány utca 57



Anti-Heroin poster from Hungary

@-SQUATTERS DIALOGUE



From almost the beginning of our magazine, we have continuously reported (and supported) squatting initiatives in different cities of Eastern Europe. In spite of many problems, evictions and lost struggles in defence of those projects, we are witnessing in general the positive tendency: the number of politically active libertarian communities and social centres set in the squats is rising.

Yet, in this issue we will print a very frustrating example. However, our correspondent from Zagreb in Croatia motivated us with her report, to open the new regular chapter in AbolishingBB where the politically orientated squatters-communities from Eastern Europe can share they experiences and in this way inspire and support each other. The critical report from Croatia should be seen as the beginning of this "@-Squatters-Dialogue". The questions placed at the end of this

text are more than enough to start such a dialogue. We strongly invite all EE squatters' communities to take an active part in presenting / sharing the internal and external problems of their activities and to take the statement on the problems raised below. Here especially very experienced and numerous squatter communities from Poland, Czechia and Slovenia (but not only) are asked for contribution. Well, join the "@-Squatters-Dialogue" on ABB pages, give power to our comrades in Zagreb and support your local squatter communities in struggle against the external as well as against the "internal" enemies.

AbolishingBB

THE WAY OF DECAY

There's no such news that there is no longer a squat in Zagreb, it still exists but there were many things that changed it in the last year. I want to share this experience and hope you find it useful for other situations. It wasn't police, owner or city authorities that made life in the squat difficult.

★ ★ ★

Half of the people that lived in the house for the last two years decided to move out after a series of incidents with local thugs.

A year ago one person came to ask if he could stay in a house for a while. He was from the neighbourhood where the squat is located but lived in other cities, now he returned to Zagreb and wants to find a job and apartment. We made an agreement that he can stay for three weeks, but should leave after that because nobody could get along with him. That was the beginning of summer and most of us went travelling. In September'04 this person was still in the house with the excuse that he didn't manage to find a job yet and the house was almost empty. Then the problems begun, his friends from the neighbourhood started coming in the house, they set a van that was parked in front of the house, on fire, trashed our living room, physically attacked some of the housemates... at this point people decided to move out as they couldn't deal with this and didn't think we could solve the situation.

★ ★ ★

From the beginning the occupation of this house wasn't a political thing. The inhabitants were mainly jugglers, artists and travellers. There wasn't much content directed to other people, the place was primarily a living space, the communication with any segment of the

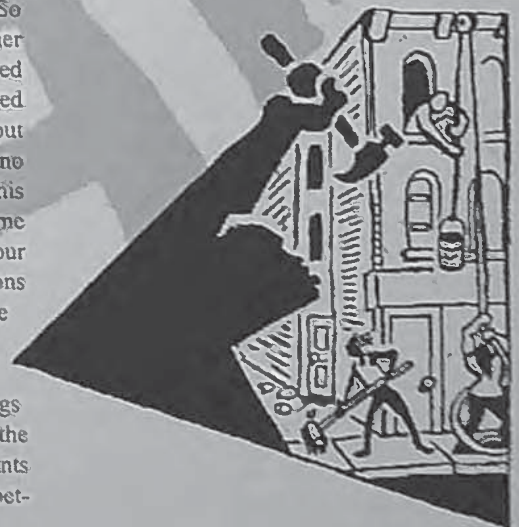
neighbourhood wasn't established. The "house collective" was very weak as a collective; it was more like a group of very different individuals with different ideas. For example, the house was never secured or barricaded; we never even locked the doors because most of the people felt it's better like that, even when there was a threat of skinhead attacks.

★ ★ ★

From October'04 or so, as the house was abandoned from part of the squatters, we invited our friends to come and reclaim the squat. The answer from 'anarchist scene' was very mild, as from the beginning they didn't show much interest in the squat. The next incident happened at New Year, when we were robbed by friends of this person from the neighbourhood. We had some discussion about it, and he was staying in the house only by blackmailing us: he threatened to burn our house and do other things if we tried to get him out. People that remained in the house weren't strong enough to force him out and take the consequences, and others weren't of much help. So it remained in status quo. At this point another person came into the house, a guy who stayed with us for some time before, but was kicked out after he attacked two girls. Now he was out of prison again; he saw that we were in no position to decide on anything and used this situation to move into the house. Among some of the people who came into the squat on our invitation, some people ignored our decisions (brought in house meetings open to anyone interested), some even helped those people who caused all the problems to connect the electricity to their room, and bought drugs from them. I left Croatia on mayday, and the situation was still full of violent incidents every once in a while, the house divided between squatters and parasite junkies.

★ ★ ★

I think there are many things to think about from this experience. There are few discussions about disconnectedness of the 'private life' and 'activist life' of a person, which is perpetuating the division of our life imposed by capital. So I think squatting is a worthy attempt. Maybe it was wrong insisting on a squat in a place where an 'anarchist' scene didn't display any need for it, even after the only space there was lost (club Attack!), nobody moved much. Should squatting emerge only from real needs, not from political ideas? Second question is how do we deal with situations of violence when our groups face it. Do we have the strength and integrity to deal with it? Can we rely on solidarity in certain 'scene'? We want to do something "to get out of a ghetto", but we are ignoring that this ghetto is not much of a basis to rely on, if it's rotten from inside by sexism, hierarchies, non-solidarity, etc.



ANNOUNCEMENTS AND APPEALS

ESSENTIAL AND REVOLUTIONARY SOLIDARITY THROUGH CREATING NEW ANARCHIST MOVEMENT

*Call for solidarity with the
new anarchist structures in
Kosovo*

Dear comrades,

In the last couple of years the first ever Albanian anarchist circle in Kosovo has been formed. It is an anarchist library project. The participants ask for any kind of anarchist printed and other material in any language but preferably in English and the South-Slavonic languages such as Bulgarian. Since forming, they have sent letters to many anarchist groups and anarchist book and magazine publishers asking for things. Most, though, said they have their own financial problems and are unable to send free material to our Albanian comrades. The only printed material they have so far received is from the Federation of Anarchists of Western Greece (OADE) and from Melbourne, Australia, but the comrades are

really keen to keep the project going. Our comrades there also face mass unemployment and therefore tremendous financial problems so that they cannot even afford stamps to send letters. The jobs they manage to find pay really shit wages, so the money they earn is spent on essential items like food. They also have no access to the internet. Some of them have health problems as well, due to exposure to bombs from NATO and other western forces in the Kosovo area in the recent war and to depleted uranium, which has already started to create mass illnesses (e.g. babies born without eyes etc). One of our comrades has been diagnosed with cancer recently, but he says he will keep up the struggle.

Because of these terrible problems, our comrades have an agreement with a Swiss humanitarian organisation which conducts regular convoys with food and other aid to the area. This organisation receives on their behalf letters and other articles from the international anarchist movement. We call for direct international anarchist solidarity with the Albanian comrades. You can send magazines, newspapers, leaflets, books, pamphlets, audio stuff (in any language, but preferably in English, Bulgarian, Serbian and related languages as mentioned above), or money, stationery, international reply coupons, or anything else you think will be useful to them. We call especially for anarchist book, magazine and other publishers to contribute, as well as the anar-

chist
movement

of all Balkan and neighbouring countries (Croatia, Serbia-Montenegro, Macedonia, Bulgaria and Greece) to help them. Our solidarity is essential and revolutionary since we will help a new anarchist movement to emerge.

*You can send your contributions to
their Swiss address:*

**RLP c/o P.F. 256, Ch 4142,
Munchenstein - 2, Switzerland.**

Alternatively, you can send your contribution to our addresses (or inform us if you have sent something to the Swiss address):

★ MACG, P.O. BOX 2120, Lygon Street
North, East Brunswick,
Victoria 3057, Australia

★ OADE, P.O. BOX 1333, Central Post
Office, Patras 26001, Greece

★ Email: macg1984@yahoo.com.au or oute-theos@yahoo.com.au

**MELBOURNE ANARCHIST
COMMUNIST GROUP (MACG)**
James Sotros from the
International Relations of OADE

EKOTOPIA MOLDOVA - AUGUST 1-14 CALLOUT FOR WORKSHOPS ON SOCIAL AND ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES IN EASTERN EUROPE & CIS

Ekotopia is an annual gathering of activists from all over Europe. This year in Moldova there will be special attention for social and environmental issues and activism in Eastern Europe & CIS. Are you interested to attend or give workshops on activist issues currently important in Eastern Europe and CIS, then come to Moldova and participate in Ekotopia!! Any issue of interest to you is welcome, be it EU-enlargement, Russia's CIS policies, Western multinationalism in Eastern Europe, anarchism in ex-CIS countries, Antifa activism, "Revolutions" in Eastern Europe: lessons from Ukraine and Georgia for Moldova?, alternative media under authoritarian regimes or (inequalities in) east-west activist interaction, etc etc etc). It's up to you!

Of course, workshops on any other interesting issue not specifically addressing Eastern Europe and CIS are just as welcome! At Ekotopia, the program is created by the participants, by you...

Ekotopia is a great place for having meetings with your activist networks and to meet activist from all over Europe. We hope cooperation between especially activists from Eastern Europe & CIS will be strengthened this summer!

Travel reimbursement will most probably be available for those who need it, if you apply

before June 20th.

If you want to give a workshop then please fill in the online workshop form: <http://informal.benn.org/go/ekotopia2005workshop>

How to apply for Ekotopia Moldova? You can apply online at: <http://informal.benn.org/go/ekotopia2005>

You can register until July 10th. Registering in advance is very helpful for the people organising the logistics!!

Hope to see you in Moldova!!

EYFA (European Youth for Action), AVT-Moldova, SalvaEco, Environmental Movement of Moldova and Gutta-Club.

More about Ekotopia, Moldova, the local organizers, how to get there, travel reimbursement rules, visa, east-west issues, etc: www.eyfa.org. Questions & remarks? Ekotopia@eyfa.org

WHAT IS EKOTOPIA?

Ekotopia is an international gathering of activists from all over Europe involved or interested in environmental and social justice issues.

Ekotopia takes place every summer since

1989, each year in a different country. It is organized by EYFA (European Youth For Action) and by local grassroots environmental organizations as hosts. This year, the 17th ekotopia will take place in Moldova.

Ekotopia is a place for learning, exchanging experiences, spreading information about environmental, social, political and other issues, but also to have fun and recharge your activist batteries! Around 200 - 600 people attend Ekotopia each year, to share skills and discuss about a wide range of themes related to environmental problems: climate change, transport and mobility, GMOs, organic food, eco-building and sustainable infrastructure, global politics and global economic system, strategies for actions, experiences of campaigns, alternative media, migration, racism and xenophobia, cultural issues...

Ekotopia is also a model of self-sustainable community that puts into practice the principles of an environmentally friendly life-style: waste recycling, vegetarian kitchen, the use of alternative energy...another world exists! Where possible, Ekotopians participate in regional actions and clean ups, try to get local people interested in ecological problems and empower local organizations. Ekotopia is horizontally and self-organized; everyone is asked to take part in running the camp, solving problems and decision-making. Decisions are made by consensus during daily morning circles.

CULTURAL CENTRE DUPLO AND RAINBOW KEEPERS OF SAMARA PRESENT: INTERNATIONAL RADICAL-ECOLOGICAL PROTEST CAMP 2005 IN OTRADNIY; RUSSIA

TO TAKE PLACE IN JULY AND AUGUST OF 2005 IN THE SAMARA REGION OF RUSSIA, AGAINST A DANGEROUS WORKSHOP FOR PROCESSING ALUMINIUM WASTE IN THE CITY OF OTRADNIY, WHICH HAS CAUSED THE SUFFERING OF HUNDREDS OF LOCAL PEOPLE.

BACKGROUND OF THE PROBLEM

Since 2002 a workshop for processing aluminium waste has functioned in the industrial region of the city of Otradniy, which is located 75 kilometres from Samara. Since then, local inhabitants have struggled against the enterprise, which pollutes the surrounding environment with a thick dark smoke. The workshop is located in one of the buildings of an abandoned, ruined factory, and is dangerously close to apartment blocks - only 500-600 meters away from the closest homes. The workshop is operated by the company OOO TD "Remetall-C", and it was opened without legal permission. At first, workshop was working daytime, but due to continuous complaints from workers of the neighbouring enterprises and local inhabitants, working hours were changed to evening and night.

These concerned people visited city government, they wrote letters to Putin, to the prosecutor responsible for the protection of the environment, to the administration of the city, to sanitary centre for the prevention of epidemics and to the prosecutor's office. As a result, officials organized various checks, and discovered several violations. At first, the company was ordered to change its practices; later director of Remetall-C was fined twice, with fines of approximately 170 and 130 dollars. Local press gave coverage of the problem. But these checks

had always a routine character; they took place in daytime when the workshop was not active. Lately these checks have not resulted any sanctions against the company.

Recently the prosecutor wrote that it has not recognized any surpassing of limits of concentration of harmful emissions in the air, and thus there is no basis for a criminal case. Although to every inhabitant of the city it is obvious that Remetall-C is emitting harmful smoke, and although workers of the neighbouring companies have developed asthma and strange allergies, and although inhabitants of the closest buildings may not even open their windows, officials do not recognize any smoke.

All local inhabitants are against the company, but officials see no evil. The workshop is running on mazut, not gas, and a filter which the company bought to curb emissions is broken and is currently not in use - this is according to information from former employees of Remetall-C. As all the usual means of struggle have been exhausted, local inhabitants contacted radical ecologists in order to organize a protest campaign.

WHO ARE WE AND HOW TO CONTACT US?

Radical ecologists are not only known for their protest camps, but also due to other ecological actions, and actions against fascists and war.

Protest camps usually go on for several weeks or even months, until some positive solutions of the problems have been reached. During camp, ecologists organize various actions, performances, concerts and seminars in cities and villages surrounding the camp. If you want to participate in protest camp or help campaign by other means, you may write to ekolager@yandex.ru. Until a special site for the camp has been created, you may read additional information and updates from www.duplo.narod.ru. Address of the site of the city of Otradniy is <http://www.otrada.narod.ru/>, it has a map and other useful information in Russian language (you do not have to know Russian to make it there though!).

BEGINNING OF THE CAMP

You should bring cutlery with you, and take your own tent, sleeping bag and mattress would not be bad either. 1st - 3rd of July the camp will organize an info stall in the famous, huge festival of bard music of Grushin, close to Samara. The camp itself will launch on Monday 4th of July, a common transport from the festival to Otradniy will be organized on this day. Camp will last until final victory, or at least until the end of August.

Camp will be alcohol and drug free.

TERROR 13

The anarchist info-shop in Skopje (Macedonia) asks for your contribution

Terror 13 is an anarchist info-shop in Skopje which opened in November, 2004. Apart from literature, in this place we have some D.I.Y. distributions, T-shirts, patches, pins... It's the first serious and better organized attempt at making this kind of place in Skopje. It's placed in a small garage that we rent, it's not so good but facing the fact that squatting here is almost impossible and the rent for the better places is very high, this is the best we can afford at this moment. Some 12-13 people are involved in the project and the info-shop is open on Monday, Wednesday, Friday and Saturday from 16-19h. Having this kind of place in Skopje is really important both for the people involved and for the other people that are interested in anarchism and D.I.Y. Hard Core, Punk etc.

I would say that there is some interest among the people here in Skopje for this info-shop, but it's more for the music part of it, some kids are coming and are interested in some records, T-shirts or patches and not so much in reading literature or zines. That's why I think that in the future we should organize more activities for example, presentations of books, projections of movies, discussions etc. in order to spread the idea among other people who are not involved in the D.I.Y. music scene. At the beginning we had to be careful about "advertising" the place openly and making a big thing out of it because as I said, it's in a garage that we rent and selling things there is illegal. That's why we wanted to take some time and see how the whole situation is going to develop: we only spread the information personally to some people. As it was going fine, we started with bigger campaign, we always speak about the place at concerts, on some radio shows, we have made some flyers and we are looking forward with hope that this place is going to take an important place

in the building of better and stronger anarchist movement here in Skopje. Some of the people from the info-shop are also involved in other activities such as organizing shows, releasing D.I.Y. records, making T-shirts and patches, translating and publishing anarchist literature, making zines, Food not bombs and some other actions.

We are interested in any kind of cooperation with similar groups or individuals so feel free to write for more information, sharing some experience or meeting some new friends. Any kind of contribution of literature, records, etc. is welcomed. Anarchist greetings from Skopje and don't forget - THE STRUGGLE CONTINUES!!!

www.Terror13.anarhija.org

SUPPORT URA!!!

Some years ago a police officer was envoyed from Bucharest to Craiova to investigate the case of URA. A bit later in a small office an ugly hysterical woman screamed: "you will not continue to publish, you will not write anymore"... Of course they never stopped. Unfortunately, where the police didn't succeed, poverty did: URA had to stop because of no money and technical capacities. Support URA!!!

URA is one of very few Romanian anarchist magazines. Their work is completely handicapped by lack of technical equipment: computer, scanner, printer ... anything what one needs to publish on a regular and wide scale. If you can support (with money or with equipment - please contact AbolishingBB

NO BORDER CAMP IN CROATIA

On the 19th- 21st of August there will be a No border camp in Croatia, in a place near Umag, in Istria.
Email squatinfoshop@net.hr for more information

THE POPE POPS OFF WITH A POP WHILE THE POPLIN PAPAL POP(E)-CULTURE POLLUTES THE POLISH POPULACE



WHEN THE SHIP REACHED THE PORT Well, it's finally happened. On April 2 Karol Wojtyla, better known as John Paul II knocked on Peters Gate. And in Poland the nation-wide time of mourning began. This was supposed to happen after his death was an object of anxiousness not only for his faithful fans but as well those for which this person was not an object of cult. Every person which knows polish reality actually knew what to expect was simply EVERYTHING. The first group (faithful fans) expected the end of the world, while the second - a massive apogee of lament after the loss of - how the official version says: "the biggest Pole in history". The death of the Pope could obviously not be just the death of an elderly and sick man. In Poland it set in motion the chain of wonders ...

THE LIGHTS-SOLIDARITY

The people until now locked in their houses, filled up the streets. Everyone wanted to take a part in collective praying and setting the lights. Any clever person suggested limiting this performance just to the streets having the name of John Paul II (there is almost no bigger town in Poland without such a street name) so soon whole pilgrim movements in fact concentrated on those streets. But of course not only there. The highlight of the daily program was each day at 21:37 (the time when Papa left). The windows received their mourning candles. All polish TV-stations were playing non-stop programs, movies and discussions about the Papa, if they were of entertainment character, they disappeared on these days. All John Paul II streets were becoming so full around 21:37 that any rush hours you could possibly know about are nothing in comparison. The traffic jam was so massive that many people were leaving their cars in the middle of the town and walking for about an hour to reach the holy-street. The very positive surprise of these days was complete silence of the politicians. The common and daily brain washing debates and phrases, and especially recently a very popular committee of politicians investigating the affairs of their colleagues, suddenly disappeared from the public space. But "everything has its price". As one polish girl commented on these days: "I am switching the TV on - the Pope is there, I am changing the channels ... everywhere Pope, switching the radio ... Pope, getting through newspapers ... Pope everywhere, finally I am opening the fridge - the "kremowka" (famous as the Popes favourite cake...)!"

The polish alternative news portals like Indymedia (www.pl.indymedia.org) or PoProstu (www.poprostu.pl) were attacked for not joining the national mourning. In reaction to the publishing on polish indymedia the text written by Italian activists, including the list of criticisms of the Pope(-politics), the website

was created to call for a boycott of polish-indymedia for "not taking the right reaction towards this scandalous pollution of the holy name of the Pope". This right reaction was understood to be the introduction of censorship on all critical information towards the dead Pope.

BUT IT IS STILL JUST A BEGINNING ...

Yet, it is supposed to be about the wonders. Before the newspapers begun to publish the stories about the classical wonders, when the people after meeting the Pope were recovering their sight or their cancers were disappearing (there was quite a few such articles), the wonder-news that has much more weight as for a polish reality was published: the football "fans" of so called "quarrelled" clubs decided to make a friendship. The word "quarrelled" seems to be kind of euphemism and does not describes fully the extreme tense relations between these groups. The massive clashes between the "fans" of the clubs of all classes and the regular hunting of the "enemies" on the streets of almost all polish cities is about the secular tradition common for all parts of the country. The first sign of the upcoming "moral enlightenment" was the interruption of the football game by the fan of LECH POZNAN which ran onto the football-field to tell the players and the arbiters that the Papa had just passed away. In fact the information was a bit exaggerated as the Pope at this time was actually still alive but the players were so taken by this news that they were not able to finish the game. The game was broken. When the Pope died indeed, on football stadiums and in nearby churches, the spontaneous masses began with the football "fans" in the main role, under the motto "Reconciliation for the Pope". The newspapers were proudly reporting about the influence which the Pope has/had even on the most brutal hooligans. The special debates on TV started discussing if the "unity" is solid, with hopeful opinions about "the holy ghost coming down on the earth and changing the image of these youth" were dominating. Well, with the ghosts you never know, but with the polish hooligans usually yes: On the first "football weekend" after the official mourning the "fans" had battles on a number of stadiums - that one week of "cease-fire" was quickly over... you could actually see how much they needed it after this very hard "week of holding their tempers". And it was so sad to hear the reaction of all those pitiful journalists: "But how ... how it is possible ... and what about reconciliation ...and what about the Papa ...?".

POPE FOR EVERYONE

In this very interesting experience appeared the lecture of the articles about the Pope. Actually, each journal could find something for itself.

The leadership in that took traditionally the most opinion-making polish newspaper "Gazeta Wyborcza". The feminists could find there, what a surprise, the information that John Paul II was a feminist: as far as he could, he was supporting women rights with words, thought and deed. The alter-globalists have got the articles with tons of quotes proving that John Paul II was staying in the first line of the fighters against the neoliberalism, and even against capitalism, when once he lost control of his emotions while writing an encyclical. Only very seldom one could find any critical opinion about the Pope, of course by foreign authors and published obviously in the form of reprints. These pieces were presented under the shocking titles, such as "The Americans offending our Pope" etc. Of course each of these texts was adequately commented, mostly with explanation about "why the author doesn't know what he/she is writing about".

THE FUNERAL

The Rome and the Vatican were hosting hundreds of thousands of Poles around this day. The interesting appearance of fashion following the sheep-instinct was to observe: It was just in good manner to be there. Everyone was joining, even the people who usually, literally, don't give a shit about the religious issues - they were going as it was worth it to show up there and take a picture next to the coffin. On the other hand, the person of the Pope became the object of the pop-culture already a long time before. All sorts of pictures and souvenirs with the Pope are and always were the golden sources of money. Even the radical anti-semitic fraction of the polish catholic-church did not see any reason to not consider the Pope as its authority. Now, when the period of mourning is finished, the time of monument-mania begun. At one moment even the priests started to call for a stop to that procedure. Also the politicians came very quickly back to the public's life, as they understood very well how much there is to win with the cult of the Pope. The first proof was the rising support for the far right president of Warsaw, Lech Kaczynski, who was involved in the organization of the massive masses during the mourning week - suddenly he became the most serious candidate for the September upcoming polish presidential elections (according to the latest surveys). It came out that the Pope even after his death influences the political lives in Poland. Certainly it will hold far into the future.

By Zbyszczek (Warsaw - Poland)

WARSAW EQUALITY PARADE BANNED ALSO THIS YEAR!!! (?)



THE MAYOR OF THE CITY OF WARSAW LECH KACZYNSKI ANNOUNCED HE WOULD AGAIN PREVENT THE PARADE. THE ORGANIZERS - THE EQUALITY FOUNDATION - ARE SURPRISED AND HELD

The Equality Parade is supposed to take place on 11 June 2005 in Warsaw, and should be the main event of the Equality Days Festival held on 10-12 June. The Festival is organised by the Equality Foundation, created by three biggest Polish LGBT organisations. By means of the demonstration, the organisers wanted to emphasise the ideas of equal rights, diversity and equality; to attract the attention of the Polish society to the rights of gays and lesbians, but also to the fundamental human rights. The Equality Parade is supposed to be a symbol of fight against discrimination of all minorities, against homophobia, xenophobia and religious intolerance.

On 10 May this year, representatives of the Equality Foundation met representatives of the city authorities, among others the Director of the Office for Security and Crisis Management, representatives of the police and of the City Roads Administration. The participants of the meeting agreed on the route, date and time of the march. The meeting was held in an atmosphere of mutual understanding and dialogue. The organisers assured the city authorities of the peaceful character of the Parade, their will of compromise and readiness to avoid any forms of confrontation. For example, the route of the Parade was planned in such a way as to avoid churches, symbolic places and monuments of national heroes, in order not to hurt anybody's religious feelings or damage anybody's personal goods. Next, the set of necessary documents was submitted.

On 17 May, International Day Against

Homophobia (IDAH0), the Equality Foundation announced during a press conference that an agreement had been reached, and presented the programme of the Equality Days. We were glad that finally, after two years' break, the Parade could take place in Warsaw.

Two hours after the conference we received information that the mayor of Warsaw Lech Kaczynski intends, despite all, to cancel the Parade also this year. "I am for tolerance, but against propagating gay orientation. Here everything stays as of old - I say 'no'", said the mayor, as quoted by the Polish Press Agency on 17 May.

According to press reports of the following days, the mayor has been doing everything to prevent the Parade. He announced e.g. the celebration of unveiling the monument of Gen. Stefan Rowecki (leader of Poland's anti-Nazi underground army during World War II) on the same day, even though previously the date had not been known, and the monument will be placed several hundred meters from the route of the Parade. He keeps repeating that "it's citizens, and not homosexuals, that can enjoy the freedom of assembly" and that he would "agree to the march neither on that day nor on any other".

It seems to be a beginning of a never-ending fight of legal tricks, the aim of which is to prevent the event from taking place - especially that the Polish law is imperfect in this regard and contains numerous loopholes. The organisers are a small young foundation, without an army of officials and lawyers, and are not able to square up the bureaucracy of the

mayor. The financial and personal measures prepared for the organisation of the Equality Days are not sufficient for court proceedings. Moreover, taking into account that the latter might last long and in this way the Parade will not take place on the planned date, the opportunity to make use of commercial sponsoring also becomes limited.

We are outraged! We were full of hope that Poland is finally joining the group of countries that respect the fundamental human and civil rights. What is particularly shocking is that the mayor of Warsaw announced his ban on the very day he participated, as a host, in the Council of Europe summit, where a declaration of human rights was signed which puts particular stress to the protection of minority rights.

We ask all organisations in Poland and abroad to give aid to our fight for fundamental human and civil rights in our country.

We appeal to everybody who has a possibility to do so to use their competencies and contacts and join us in our efforts.

It is possible that the mayor of Warsaw, as a leading contender for Poland's presidency, counts on international protests, which would only win him more supporters among conservative voters. He might wish to show his power and strength in his fight with the rest of the democratic world. However, this is being done not only at the expense of gays and lesbians, but also at the expense of democracy, human rights and civil freedoms!

MONETARIZATION OF FREE SOCIAL BENEFITS IN RUSSIA STORM OF PROTESTS ACROSS THE COUNTRY AGAINST SOCIAL HUMILIATION

Most of the free social benefits were introduced in the beginning of the nineties to maintain some basic social services in a period of a huge inflation and overall collapse of the Soviet social state. Most important of these are free municipal transport and free drugs for plenty of different groups of people - for example in many cities groups as different as World War 2 veterans, Afghanistan veterans, victims of repression, victims of Chernobyl disaster, orphans, children of families which have 3 or more children, disabled, heroes of Soviet Union, pensioners, police officers, security service officers, heroes of socialist work and other groups are entitled to free transport... in Moscow, more than 1/3 of the metro-traffic is by those entitled

to free transport. Besides drugs and transport, there are also benefits such as free telephone and free travel to sanatorium for some of the afore-mentioned groups. Of course, often these services do not exist in practice due to "lack of funds".

Neoclassical theorists propagate replacing free benefits with their monetary equivalents, and no doubt this has been on the agenda of Russian liberal reformers and their consultants from IMF and World Bank since the day they were introduced. But liberal reformers do not take into account: the inflation (of course liberal reformers are against inflation adjustments in principle); that unlike free goods, money equivalents may always end up in some official's pocket; sluggish administrative apparatus

of Russia, due to which many regions have not yet any mechanism, nor finances to compensate for revoked benefits; the bankrupt state of half of the regions of the federation; and that money in the household may always be spent by someone for whom the benefit was not meant...

Really it was the short success of parliamentary "communists" in Russia and protests such as "rail wars" and factory occupations in the late nineties which held the liberal reformers back for a while. But when Kremlin managed to split communists and push liberal right-wing opposition out from Duma altogether in December 2003 Duma elections, it was time to

get reforms back to agenda - in full steam. In the flush of victory, KGB clique who has seized all power in Russia has prepared an unforeseen set of reforms; besides monetarization of benefits, also partial privatization of elementary education and abrogation of laws on freedom from the impressments, and conscriptions are on the agenda.

Monetarization laws were passed hastily during the summer months during just a couple of weeks, in a time when most of the people who will be most hurt due to reforms, were out from the city - millions of people in Russia are partially or completely dependent on subsistence farming to make their living. An unforeseen coalition uniting veteran organizations, liberal right, small independent trade unions, human rights organizations representing interests of victims of repression and "communist" parties organized rallies against reform - but these gathered small numbers and were mostly completely ignored by public at large. Due to the annihilation of independent TV in Russia during the last couple of years, the public had no any idea whatsoever what the monetarization was supposed to mean in practice. No person who had observed the lame protests of last July could foresee the storm to begin in January, when laws began to be executed!

Already before passing the laws about so called "monetarization" of social benefits in State Duma last summer, there were attempts to launch massive protests against de-facto abolition of the social guarantees. But because state propaganda pressed the conscience of citizens with full force, giving reforms as a real improvement of the social situation of millions of people, who are using various social benefits (from free transport to free drugs), an attempt to gain necessary attention to these serious reforms of already anti-social state policies, failed.

On 11th of January - in Dzerzhinsk of Nizhni Novgorod region, 400 veterans and disabled demonstrated illegally against the cancellation of free benefits. On 12th of January - 1000 pensioners and disabled demonstrate in Penza, demanding payments of the financial compensations. On 13th of January - 2000 pensioners demonstrated in Stariy Oskol, demanding that benefits be given back, and 300 demonstrated in Krasnogorsk (Moscow suburb). On 14th of January - 400 in Kaluga, 400 in St. Petersburg, 1500 in Penza, 200 in Cherepovets and 200 in Rybinsk. On 15th of January - 1000 in Himki (Moscow suburb), 300 in Kazan. On 18th of January - 1000 in Perm and 5000 in Tomsk. And this is just a fraction of the collective, more or less spontaneous protests. And individual protests, such as non-payment and assaults on conductors, are even more widespread. In some cities, municipality decided dispatching only male conductors, since they consider that female ones are too vulnerable to assaults from pensioners and disabled. In Kaliningrad city government hastily returned free travel to police when a bunch of cops had mishandled a conductor.

To give you a little bit of an impression about these protests, we report briefly from some of them. One of the biggest rallies took place in St. Petersburg on 15 January where about 8000 people participated. Very characteristic aspect of this (and not only this) protest - only a few of the slogans were concentrated on the current issue of the benefits. Most of them

had a general, political character: "Down with Putin!", "Down with the government!", "Down with Matvienko!" (St. Petersburg mayor), "Down with the regime of plundering!", "Revolution!", "Government to resignation!", "Putin to resignation!", "Shame on Putin!", "Down with the autocracy!", "Down with Putin's gang!", "Enough plundering the people!". The vast majority of protesters were not in any political organizations, although among speakers in Victory Park were orators from liberal "Yabloko", pro-Kremlin left-wing "Motherland" and communist groups. In the march, activists of several authoritarian communist groups, anarchists and human rights organizations all took part, but the number of these "politicized" elements was not more than 200 from the total. All of the political structures were caught by surprise with the scale of these protests. All agitation materials were read with big interest in the crowd. In the beginning, police were indifferent to the protests, although they became more active during the day. But they could not arrest anybody.

One week later, on the 23rd of January, there was a meeting in Murmansk with up to 2000 participants. Organisers were Party of Pensioners and KPRF (Communist Party of Russian Federation). Anarchists also took part distributing leaflets and journals, and shouting revolutionary slogans, which found support among people. One elderly man, former seaman proposed anarchists to seize arms stocks from military barracks. When people were only starting to get active, a legalized meeting was already finished. A small group of pensioners decided to block the street spontaneously. Anarcho-communists joined without hesitation. More and more people joined, and soon several hundred people broke through the police cordon and moved towards city administration. Party of Pensioners and KPRF bosses were nowhere to be seen at this point, the spontaneous demonstration had only anarchist flags and a couple of KPRF flags raised by a couple of komsomol members. In a spontaneous meeting at administration, people demanded a meeting with the governor screaming his surname. Governor Yuri Evdokimov decided not to show up, good for him since a number of pensioners were about ready to see him hanging. During and after the protest one anarchist was arrested and brutalized by police, and an elderly lady was also arrested due to "incitement".

In Omsk the protests gained quick success, Omsk was among the first Siberian cities where administration announced the continuation of free transport benefits for the whole of the year 2005. This was however only a partial success, because costs of municipal housing services (water, electricity etc.) risen 50%. Where pensioners often received around 200 roubles of additional fiscal compensations, they had to pay an extra 300-500 roubles (10-15\$) for housing services. On the 27th of January there were 4 simultaneous actions in various part of the city, two of which included the blockading of traffic. It was a warm day for a Siberian winter, a heatwave of -22 celsius degrees (-8 F). KPRF had their meeting at the legislative assembly of Omsk region, there were also red and black flags of Siberian Confederation of Labour, altogether some 500 people. SKT had the banner "No to social terror!", and satirical leaflets. Police had raised fences to protect traffic, but pensioners broke through the fences and police

cordons. Police had to reroute traffic by another road.

In Kaliningrad 28th of January pensioners and anarchists attempted to raid the mayor's office. There was a non-legalised demonstration against the cancellation of free benefits. Some days before, a previously unheard organisation "No to law" had plastered the city with leaflets, inviting all to action. Some 200 people appeared, mostly pensioners. In the beginning of the meeting, a group of young anarcho-communists from Autonomous Action unrolled the banner "There will always be a revolution!", and invited elderly to form brigades of self-defence in order to struggle with the power. After 15 minutes, the crowd began shouting "Let's storm the mayor's office!" and "Everybody to Savchenko!" (he is city mayor). Police tried to block the crowd and seize the banner from anarchists, but they were pushed aside by elderly people. When people arrived to the mayor's office, they found it blocked by some 20 police. People began shouting "Savchenko, get out!" and "Give us back our benefits!". Chief of administration of mayor's affairs came out, and announced that he will call OMON special forces, since the meeting was not legalised. Elderly people kept pushing cops, shouting to them "you have fathers and mothers, how can you tolerate this power!". A busload of OMON arrived, and began to arrest younger participants of the meeting, and brutalize everybody without age discrimination. 4 activists of Autonomous Action got arrested.

While in the beginning of the protests mostly the return of the transport benefits was demanded, soon angered protesters were demanding resignation of the government and president Putin. Meanwhile, government was putting all the blame on badly working regional powers. KPRF (Communist Party of Russian Federation), RKRP (Russian Communist Workers' Party) and even nazbols were accused of the protests - powers are not ready to acknowledge that in this situation people do not really need any organizers.

In some cities OMON broke up the rallies, but mostly powers seem to be scared and holding back. According to official mythology, pensioners are "everything for us" - we love them, respect and are taking care of them by any means. Pensioners and other elderly people are also the most disciplined constituency, always used by deputies, governors and the president himself. This is why the protests of the pensioners, which powers first attempted to ignore by silence, have quickly become an object of games of spin-doctors.

Authorities have made quick concessions in plenty of cities: In Samara, pensioners were promised free transport until the end of January; President of Tatarstan, Mintimer Shaimov promised to increase compensations; Governor of Kuzbass promised free travel to pensioners; In Vladimir oblast, price of local trains for pensioners was cut down to 20 rubles; In Penza, free traveling benefits were returned; In Tyumen, pensioners were returned all benefits; Same in Yekaterinburg; Same in Primorsky region of the Far East for all who used to enjoy free travel; Same in Almetevsk, Chelyabinsk; In Chukotka of Far East, all benefits were returned in regards to municipal payments and drugs as well; In Bashkiria, 100% increase of the compensations; In Saint-Petersburg, the metro suddenly decided to pass all pensioners in by

free, without any published decision.

Anarchists have been caught by surprise by both the scale and militancy of these protests - just as all other political groups. In Moscow, this surprise is also due to particularities of the city - already in the nineties Moscow strongman Yuri Luzhkov showed the door to IMF consultants, and ever since his politics has been that of maintaining the Soviet social state. This is possible because Moscow is 25 times richer than the poorest Russian regions; "Moscow privilege" is also a crucial method of dividing the working class and maintaining stability of the center of the empire. It was clear from the beginning that no free benefits will be cancelled in Moscow. And the same strategy was chosen by Moscow region authorities as well - but not in regards to the inter-city travels!

So since 1st of January, Moscow became closed for pensioners and everybody else from suburbs that formerly enjoyed free traveling benefits. Soon these cities became a hotbed of radical protest - in Himki of the North-East a picket by 50 pensioners snowballed to 200 persons attempting to blockade Moscow-St. Petersburg highway when passers-by joined spontaneously. Moscow and regional authorities made a hasty deal of temporary return of free travel for inter-city commuters from 15th of January onwards, but protests are still planned in more than 20 cities of the Moscow region.

In the end, it must be said that some of the poorest are also benefiting from the reforms. Most often this is the case in distant countryside locations, in which elderly have never been

able to benefit from free travel or drugs. There, an extra few hundred rubles is welcomed. So anarchists demands as part of these protests, may not be simply to return to the previous situation.

**Text was set together
from reports by
ABB-Correspondent Aleksei
and stories published
on Russian IMC**



YEAH! I POSSIBLY FOUND A POSITIVE SIDE TO THE EU-CONSTITUTION...

Each column of mine for ABB is a little gymnastics feat: by approaching the new topic the balance has to be found that allows for people with a different focus, geo-origin, cultural- and ideological backgrounds to understand the problem. This column will be a high-level of acrobatics: the topic is the EU-constitution, apparently European nightmare, but not specifically an EE-topic, as EE anyway is, since one year, divided into the welcome, not-yet-welcome and clearly don't-cross-this-line-or-I-will-shoot-you "Europeans", which obviously creates more different perspectives. And even more: which of you ... "Europeans of all classes", know better about this little book which in fact appears to be the final legalization / institutionalization of the neo-liberal doctrine in Europe/EU? Finally I have got just 650 words for this text, 100 of them I lost explaining my problem ...

Watching the way the EU-Constitution is smuggled into the European relations (and so also to global) creates an impression that something makes the turbo-capitalistic freaks very nervous. I guess that it is rather not the ghost of Marx (economic collapse) that is the one that scares those among the "Brussels-Glass" in the night, but the possible reaction of the people.

While large parts of the European population were busy for about 4 weeks long with the Catholic soap-opera ("The Popes rotation - episode X" served by turbo-media), the united forces of Eurocrats were very busy rolling forward with incredible speed the process of introducing the Constitution. In some countries it went so quickly that most of the people did not

even realise that the time for decision-making had gone. In Spain, a bit earlier, not even 45% took part in the Referendum so just about 1/3 of all, said YES, while the official version says: "a huge majority of Spain said YES, yippie-yeah!!!". In Germany people were basically told to shut up, "the Referendum" took place in Parliament, and Germans got in fact the "Grüss Gott, das Freie Markt" the Bavarian Pope with the EU-neo-liberal-Bible in hand. In those regions of Europe where people modestly started to ask what "the holy book" is saying about their future and the future of their children, the Eurocrats told them "don't be afraid, everything will be alright" (Chirac) or asked them "to read just the first two pieces of the Constitution" as they are nice (L. Polfer - Foreign Minister of Luxembourg). The old marketing trick of portioning and frequently raising peoples interest: in the third part in fact the devil is hidden (even if there is no question to me that all neo-liberal and un-human EU concept is one big hell on Earth).

So what is this document about that they don't really want people to know? EU-Constitution brings basically the immunity (in the form of institutionalisation) of a neo-liberal doctrine for insiders (EU-citizens). It means the constitutionalisation of the following aspects: more protection for property (from now on even, based on TRIPS-agreement, the intellectual-property such as patents - the way to protect the monopolies), less brakes for privatisation of the social sectors, regulation of the relations with (US) NATO through further radical militarization of the EU through militarization of all countries (even in little Luxembourg the military budget is going to be raised by 300%!), hierarchical classification of cultures (some influential religions will be armed with privileges to the cost of the secular population or not-so-influential majorities) so basically ... the Christianisation (as well external: more European crusaders on the side of US democracy-descendants), nuclearization of European energy (based on EURATOM-contract saying that nuclear-power is the future motor of development, revival of economies and of peaceful progress), political centralisation (the delegation of power extends again), green light for fur-

ther elimination of public services (constitution "guarantees" the equal access to public services but no guarantees of their real existence ...), etc, etc.

And what does it mean for Eastern Europe? The same as for Western Europe, but traditionally, more dramatic developments at the bottom are awaited. The propaganda of euro-corrupted elites will be probably even more perverse and expensive for everyone (Czech Government announced about 8.5 million dollars for the promotion of the Constitution - how much for explaining its true meaning?), the people in the east are even more confused, the criticism came late and with a minimum of resources. The reformist groups will very soon form the copies of western "progressive-NO" initiatives and the grass-roots initiatives, among them anarchists, with their small numbers will be lynched by media and when necessary - by cops. The eventual "French sabotage" (in France there is big scepticism for the constitution) can empower the anti-EU spirits in some traditionally euro-sceptic populations (e.g. in Poland) but first in line the national one, I guess.

But yes, I found possibly one positive side towards the introduction of the constitution in Eastern Europe, and actually this is the aspect that can in fact be seen as the worst of all. The EU-constitution when introduced is hard to imagine to be ever removed or rolled-back within this system. At the same time the mood in the East towards neo-liberal "progress" is already quite "ripe" so sooner or later the limit of tolerance must be reached. So when the "parliamentary" rejection is certainly falling out, and people's rage reaches its peak, the only one solution left is ... In this sense the raising of the alternative socio-economic concepts and promotion of grass-roots organizational structures reminds us of very acute and essential activity today, because who knows: maybe with the introduction of this bloody Constitution they will actually bring their downfall a little closer ...

**Veronika
AbolishingBB**

Revolutions in Georgia and Ukraine have started a row of protests on the post soviet space. In Kyrgyzstan was the first "narcissus" revolution in Central Asia that finished with a victory of the opposition.

Complaining about lack of dedication of the people around you is as banal as telling how a long time ago you got laid for the last time. In the era of counter-revolution, the destiny of a revolutionary is not something you choose yourself, but neither it is a moral duty. You either become one or not, and you may have become one already without yet knowing about it. And if people around you are not really up for it, find others or change the landscape. And no mat-

Aleksei (ABB Moscow correspondent)



Last year (2004), the neoliberalist (PNL) aligned with the democrat party (PD) had a win after a strong fight with PDSR (social democrat Romanian party, the party of Iliescu, who proposed as president the second leader and prime minister in that time - Adrian Nastase). Traian Basescu became the new president of Romania. This event was connected with the orange revolution in the Ukraine. For the third time the Romanians celebrated the end of bolshevism (first time in 1989 to the revolution and the second time in 1996 when people voted the Democrat Convention CD, who unfortunately disappointed). The new promise of those in power is to no longer sacrifice generations, and that Romania will become a part of the civilised world. They began full of enthusiasm to apply their promises. The new government Taricenu,

began with a radical declaration and carried out monumental movements against the corrupted system.

Unfortunately the Romanians still didn't learn the lesson of pronouncements. We have to put forward the following questions: has the new power decided to act towards the advantage of the large mass of poor people? Is the new power from Bucuresti firm in making social protection programs? (one of the promises of the election campaign was that when they succeed in achieving power, they will automatically give the pensioners more money with a limit of a decent life - of course that didn't happen). In other words, will the new power apply the promises for which it was elected? And another question that results automatically - were these promises made in order to create new working places, new social conditions for Romanian population, and a better life that Romanians have awaited since the revolution?

For sure it is not possible to change a situation like the one in Romania from the last 15 years in some months, but slowly the enthusiasm of people has died and a new conjecture comes in their minds. The external politics of the new government seems to be pro-american . The president Basescu whose purpose of which to constitute a USA-Great Britain-Romanian axe, means actually to sell Romania off to the great western corporations. At the same time after the conference in Luxemburg in 24 april 2005, Romania together with Bulgaria is invited to join the EUROPEAN UNION, the year of entrance is 2007. The conditions which the government has to follow means new unemployment, new expensive costs for all the products and as a result more innocent people who are sacrificed in the name of democracy and freedom. The effects of the ROMANIAN invitation to join the EUROPEAN UNION are in contradiction to the promises of the new political power ...

But this is not the worst thing that has happened in Romania. Usually a party who accede to the power, lie to the people with absurd promises and after the elections they change the program because they were already voted . There will never be a political power that exists which will act in the interest of the people - this is a contradiction in terms.

On 19 January 2005, on an emission of the OTV, a private TV post with national distribution; the ex general of SECURITATEA (the romanian secret services in the time of CEAUSESCU) Nicolae Plesita, recognised on air that he investigated and haunted the Romanian dissident Paul Goma (a political writer who made an anti-communist protest and after prison and many other troubles was expelled by Ceausescu. He went to France where the government gave him political asylum -in present he still has this statute).

For a better understanding I will make a short account of events. In 1978 Mihai Pacepa, general in SECURITATEA, the boss of the external department of this service deserted. He took refuge in the USA where the story reached the west media of the horror and pain of people and the paranoid and

murderer actions of the Ceausescu regime. This created a big crisis in the regime from Bucuresti. Ceausescu ordered revenge. After two years the commandment of the C.I.E (the center of external information - the external part of Securitate) had a new leader - Nicolae Plesita. The time between 1980-1984 was a bloody time, Securitate acted in external politic's like in the darkness of the Stalinist age, in which innocent people were put in jail and harrassed. In this time barbaric aggressions in the form of assassinations were commanded against many dissidents: On 21 februar 1981, at the romanian department of EUROPA LIBE-RA (Free Europa) in München, a 20 kilo bomb was detonated - fortunately no people were killed (in 2001, Ion Iliescu, the president at that time, recognised publicly that Securitatea organised the bomb-assassination in München). Although some of the assassinations were not 'successful' the Securitatea propagated the terror in the romanian Diasporas as inside the country.

So the commander of this murderous time went on a television show and confirmed in front of the public, in a very cynical way, all of these facts, 15 years after the Romanian revolution. What does it mean?

When Basescu, the new president confirmed his intention to change the commandment of the S.R.I (the successor of Securitatea), the boss of S.R.I held a press conference and said that the life of the president is in danger, and that the mafia structures can command the murder of the president with killers coming from outside of the country. The boss of S.R.I said that not only should the president not try to change something in S.R.I, but even in which way he will be assassinated.

The last public scandal finished some days ago (second part of May). In March 2005, three journalists from mainstream media were kidnapped in Irak. The conjecture was that this kidnapping was theatrical and the officials are forced by the S.R.I to accede that there is no way to fight with them. The kidnappers demanded that the Romanian military forces in Irak be turned back, but a lot of newspapers pointed out this was not a usual kidnapping. It was the conjecture that even the journalists are in connection with this strange story. The assumption was that S.R.I in collaboration with arabian mafia arranged this bluff in order to force the new officials to stop the fight against corruption.

After a long silence, and many strange statements, the journalists were set free. Basescu, the new president said the Romanian state didn't make any compromises, giving money or promise the withdrawal of Romanian forces for the freedom of the three journalists. On the other hand, he declared - it was a success of the secret forces in the collaboration with officials

Conclusions: the political power is commanded by the old terrorist structure S.R.I -SECURITATEA; This organism is guilty by crime against Romanian citizens for many years of terror, starving, maiming and killing; The Killers from Ceausescu-time are in the structures of the system, owners of many new privatised factories. They have the control of economical and

cultural structures; In this situation, as a country full of corruption and S.R.I mafia, Romania was accepted to NATO and soon will join the EUROPEAN UNION...

I refuse to think the officials from NATO and E.U have no idea about whom has the power and how in Bucuresti... or maybe this is just the democracy that they need for their concepts.

Georgy ABB/Romania



As our (infamous) Romanian correspondent sent us his contribution almost 2 weeks after the deadline (he does it permanently so we believe he has sadistic tendencies) we were forced to create in the last minute from his gulash-report this very sympathetic column...

ABB

ANARCHISTS IN ROMANIA OF THE PAST FEW MONTHS

So, we begin by saluting the revival of the (in)famous ABB magazine and collective (...)

On 25-26 of March took place the first edition of No Border Festival, an Eastern European DIY/anarcho-punk festival in Timisoara. The event happened on three levels: The first one were the concerts - bands from Romania, Hungary, Croatia, Slovenia, Slovakia, Czech Rep, Poland and Lithuania performed. Also at the end of each night one western band played as "friends of the East". We also need to mention especially that the issue that we were Attacking/confronting with this festival (the borders) was the one which stopped friends from Macedonia, Belarus, Serbia and Ukraine joining us; The second level was the movies screening - most of the bands brought with them independent films, the films differed, some presented different actions in Eastern Europe; others were more artistic, and some were documentaries; Finally the third level was the distro fair - it was the place where DIY bands and distro/labels could meet and exchange contacts and experiences; Altogether hundreds of people flooded the social and cultural center INCA during these two days, the festival was a succes. The thing that started the whole idea of the festival were these lines: *There is a justifiable need to abolish the borders between nations, societies, cultures and whatever separates and defines us. In order that the process does not lead to the formation of new borders or other types of segregation it has to be done from below, by the people not by elitist institutions* - A.B.B. Magazine (...)

At the beginning of May a few people made a small leaflet action around the McDonalds restaurant in Timisoara.

COLUMNS COLUMNS COLUMNS COLUMNS

COMMUNITIES IN STRUGGLE

THE NEVER COMPLETE LIST OF ANARCHIST GROUPS,
PROJECTS AND COLLECTIVES FROM EASTERN EUROPE

WELCOME TO EE ANARCHISM

www.altermost.org.pl (good english)
www.abb.hardcore.lt (bad english)

ARMENIA

* "Proryv" - anarcho-communist group from Yerevan; vaga@freenet.am

BELARUS

* ABC Belarus - Belarus 230023 Grodno p.o. box 217; intolerant@autonom.zn.com; www.anarchistblackcross.by.ru
* AFA (Antifascist Action) - Minsk; restless81@mail.com
* Anarchist Library - Minsk; antyfa@mail.ru
* Anti-McDonald - <http://belmac.narod.ru>;
<http://kompaktor.narod.ru>
* ANTYFA - antifascist group; antyfa@mail.ru
* Autonomous Action // Lida - 2 (Grodno Region, Belarus) P. O. Box 11, 231282 Lida -2, Grodno
* Autonomous Action // Minsk (Belarus) belarus@avtonom.org; www.belarus.avtonom.org
* BAF/ Belarusian Anarchy Front - baf@list.ru
* Belarusian Linux Community - www.linux.hitech.by
* "Ecoresist" - anarcho-ecological group; ccoaction@tut.by
* FAB / Federation of Belarusian Anarchist - Minsk; P.O.Box 33, 220134;
- Novopoloc; nuts-1@rambler.ru
* "Free Theatre" - anarchist theatre from city of Brest; ksenia.izberg@mail.ru
* KDS "Razam" / Confederation of Active Initiatives "Together" - 230005 Belarus; Grodno P.O.Box 237; kds-razam@tut.by; www.razam.by.ru
* "Navinki" - satirical/anarchist quarterly newspaper; Minsk; kampramat@tut.by
* "Rebellious girls" - anti-sexist initiative in Minsk; rebelgirls@mail.ru
* www.anarchistory.boom.ru - history of anarchy in Belarus
* www.375crew.org - d.i.y. political punk \ hardcore culture of Belarus

BOSNIA & HERZEGOVINA

* Anarchist Collective "Slobodna Krajina" - Banjaluka; ab_nseyu@yahoo.co.uk
* www.osvajanje.slobode.bravehost.com - anarchist info from BiH

BULGARIA

* "Anarho Sprotivn" (Anarchist Resistance) - newspaper; <http://resistance.hit.bg>
* "Chlyab i svoboda" (Bread and freedom) - newspaper / discussion forum; <http://savanne.ch/svoboda>; svoboda@bulgaria.com
* "Anarchy in BG" - <http://change.to/anarchy>; anarchy@bulgaria.com
* www.stand.at/struggle - anarchist web-site with lot of interesting historical material

CROATIA

* www.kontra-punkt.info - anarchist information & discussion web-site
* AnFemA (Anarcho-Feminist-Action) - info@zamor.net; www.anfema.tk



ma@zamor.net; www.anfema.tk
* "Monte Paradiso" - squat/social centre in Pula; URK Monteparadiso ex Vojarna K.Rojc; Gajeva 5; 52100 Pula; <http://squat.nev.monteparadiso.info>; info@monteparadiso.hr
* Rijeka-anarchist initiative - www.raianarhija.org; rai200@net.hr; anarhist_n@yahoo.com
* "SKATULA" - infoshop in Rijeka; u Kruznoj 8; open Wed&Thurs. 17-21
* "Tabula Rasa" - anarchist/libertarian infoshop in Cakovec; adress: Josipa Kozarca BB; post: Infoshop Tabula rasa, p.p. 18, 40315 M. Sredisce, Croatia
* Z.A.F. // Zadar Anarchist Front - local anarchist group in the city of Zadar; zadarskianarchisti@yahoo.com; www.solidarnostmahost.org
* www.stocitas.org - Antiauthoritarian publisher

CZECHIA

* ABC-CSAF - c/o P.H., po box 41, 565 01 Chocen. abc@csaf.cz
* AFA - anarchist anti-fascists group; po box 81; 100 81 Praha 105; afa_praha@volny.cz
* AKA Anarcho Communist Alternative - AKA-CZ@email.cz; phone number: +420777637863
* "A-Kontra" - anarchist magazine and collective. po box 223, 111 21 Praha 1; a-kontra@csaf.cz
* Anarchist Group Uherske Hradiste - <http://uhas.wz.cz>; uhas@email.cz; "Bazar", P.O.Box 24; 686 01 Uh.Hradiste
* www.antifa.cz - Czech Antifa
* CSAF / Czechia (CSAF - Czech-Slovakia Anarchist Federation) - po box 223, 111 21 Prague 1; intersec@csaf.cz www.csaf.cz/english
* Federaci socialnich anarchistu (FSA - IWA) (Federation of Social Anarchists) - PO box 5; 15006 Praha 56; fsa_intersec@anarchismus.org <http://fsa.anarchismus.org>
* Feminist Alliance of March 8 - @-feminist group; fs8.brezna@centrum.cz
* Info-Shop - Sochanska 6; Prague.
* "MILADA" - squat in Prague; milada1sq@volny.cz
* ORA "Solidarity" - organization of revolutionary anarchists; L.K. po box 223; 111 21 Praha 1; <http://alarm.solidarita.org>; intersec@solidarita.org
* "PAPIRNA" - squat in Prague.
* PH - international secretariat of CSAF intersec@csaf.cz

ESTONIA

* www.hot.ee/anarhism - Future Anarchist Party of Estonia

HUNGARY

* BARRICADE COLLECTIVE - anarchist group; <http://www.anarkom.lapja.hu>
* "CONDOLKODO. ANTIKVARIUM" - anarchist bookshop; www.ainfok.in.hu; gondolko-do@citromail.hu Logodl utca 51; 1012 Budapest (it is near Metro station "Moszkva ter"); open Monday-Friday 12-18;
* Social Disease Kollektiva (anarhopunk collective) - <http://socialdisease.tk>
* www.geocities.com/anarchoinfo - anarchist web-site

KAZAKHSTAN

* www.almaty-liberta.boom.ru - libertarian communists in Kazakhstan

LATVIA

* Pretspars Collective - zinc, distro, web, actions - <http://pretspars.hardcore.lt>; pretspars@riseup.net
* "ZABADAKS" - DIY political/cultural project, infoshop etc.; Vijolisu 24; Kuldiga; LV-3300Latvia; www.nckac.lv; maris.steinbergs@kuldiga.lv

LITHUANIA

* active@hardcore.lt - LT activists network
* "BENDRADARBIAI" - autonomous culture centre in Siauliai; Vytauto g.103 A, Siauliai; tel. 370 69909049
* booking@hardcore.lt - booking in Lithuania
* "GREEN" - diy culture club in Vilnius; Maironio 3 (in the yard), Vilnius; booking@hardcore.lt
* www.hardcore.lt - Lithuanian diy scene info resource on the net

MACEDONIA

* direct action - anarchist collective directa@freemail.com.mk
* fuck yoga - a distro and label neveranswerthe-phone@yahoo.com
* kaka - a distro and label surovo@yahoo.com
* napravi sam - a collective radexx2000@yahoo.com
* teror13 - a infoshop info@teror13.tk www.teror13.anarhija.org

POLAND

* ABC/ACK - www.ackmost.org.pl
- Warszawa - po box 30; 02-741 Warszawa 121. biulctym@ack.wp.pl
- Poznan - po box 5; 60-966 Poznan 31. sanche@poczta.wp.pl
- Bialystok - po box 43; 15-662 Bialystok 26.
- Slupsk - po box 65; 76-200 Slupsk 12. bifa@polbox.com
- Trojmiasto - pomierz@friko2.onet.pl
- Wroclaw - S.A.K.A. ul. Jagielonczyka 10D; 50-240 Wroclaw. pba@poprostu.pl
- Lublin - Piotr Hiller, ul. Cwiklinskiego 230; 20-067 Lublin. cakier@poczta.onet.pl
- Lodz - CIL, Po Box 203, 90-950, Lodz 1; ralodz@poczta.onet.pl
* Anarchist Library - ul. Palaskiego 21a; Poznan.
* Anarchist Library - ul Jagielonczyka 10D; Wroclaw.
* "A-TAK" - anarchist magazine from Krakow;

COMMUNITIES IN STRUGGLE

atak@poprosto (contact);
 atak.dystyrbucja@wp.pl (distro);
 www.red-rat.w.interia.pl/atak.html
 * "A-zine" - an anarchist publication in english contains articles of polish anarchist groups. L.Akai, po box 227; 00-987 Warszawa 4.
 cubc@zigzag.pl
 * "BUNKIER" ("B 48") - underground concert/party space; ul. Wschodnia 48; Torun; drozdzu@interia.pl
 * "C-4" - alternative culture centre in Lodz (ul. Weglowa 4).
 * "Czarny Blok" ("Black Bloc") - anarchist publication in polish; po box 43; 15-662 Bialystok 26.
 * "De Centrum" - anarchist squat in Bialystok; address: ul. Czestochowska 14/2; www.decentrum.prv.pl
 * EMANCYPUNK - anarchy-feminist group; po box 145; 02-792 Warszawa 78.
 * FA (Anarchist Federation) - federation of polish anarchists consisting of many local groups.
 - FA- virtual collective secretary - biurofa@go2.pl
 - FA-Biala Podlaska - fabp@poczta.onet.pl
 - FA-Bialystok - wilddcast@poczta.onet.pl
 - FA-Czestochowa - akiclasia-ak@wp.pl
 - FA-RSA Gdansk - jwal@pg.gda.pl
 - FA-Inowroclaw - pychu@poczta.onet.pl
 - FA-Krakow - lukasab@poczta.onet.pl
 - FA-Lublin - falublin@poczta.onet.pl
 - FA-Lodz - falodz@poczta.onet.pl
 - FA-Opole - sobol13@o2.pl
 - FA-Ostrowiec Sw. - marcin@natura.most.org.pl
 - FA-Poznan - fa-poznan@o2.pl
 - FA-Rzeszow - xjedrusx@o2.pl
 - FA-Slupsk - onctbifaid@poczta.onet.pl
 - FA/RSA Sochaczew - antina-zi@frikoo6.onet.pl
 - FA-Szczecin - fa_szm@interia.pl; winanar@wp.pl
 - FA-Warszawa - natakr@poczta.onet.pl
 - FA-Warszawa/Praga - hydrozag@poczta.onet.pl
 - FA-Wroclaw - ahm@o2.pl
 - FA Zyrdow - sidtom@poczta.onet.pl
 * Food Not Bombs
 - Gdansk - po box 118; 80-470 Gdansk 45.
 - Olsztyn - edelweiss@o2.pl
 - Rzeszow - ul. Kustronia 6/48; 35-303 Rzeszow; tel. 602769138.
 - Gliwice - "S.E.K.W. Krzyk"; po box 2; 44-101 Gliwice.
 www.food.gliwice.com www.food-notbombs.prv.pl
 * "FREEDOM" - Centre of Animation an Alternative Culture /

Anarchist Centre & Collective; ul. Jagielonczyka 10D; Wroclaw. freedom69@go2.pl
 * Grupa Anarchistyczna "Solidarnosc" (Anarchist Group "Solidarity") po box 12; 60-975 Poznan 61.
 * "INFOSZOP" - infoshop / anarchist & feminist library / info cafe in Warsaw; ul. Lotewska 11; Saska Kępa; Warszawa. Open: Monday-Thursday 18⁰⁰-20⁰⁰; Saturday 13⁰⁰-17⁰⁰; Sunday 14⁰⁰-17⁰⁰;
 www.alter.most.org.pl/infoshop; tel. +48 503676482
 * Inicjatywa Pracownicza FA / IP-FA (Workers Initiative of FA) - federation of groups linked to FA focusing on support for workers;
 * IP-FA / Szczecin - Dominik Sawicki, po box 53; 70-474 Szczecin 34.
 * IP-FA / Silesia - po box 2; 44-100 Gliwice; inicjatywa_silesia@hoga.pl
 * KOLEKTYW AUTONOMISTOW (Collective of Autonomists) - group of activist po box 13; 87-116 Torun 17; michoo77@poczta.onet.pl
 * "KROMERA" - squat/culture centre; ul. Kromera 6a; Wroclaw.
 * LETS - Local Economy Trade System
 - Krakow - testcyf@kr.edu.pl
 - Poznan - lets@poland.com
 * "LITTLE MARY" - anarchist squat in Czestochowa; ul. Warszawska 249/25;
 * "Mac Pariadka" - anarchist magazine in polish; pariadka@polbox.com
 * "PILON" - underground bar/cafe open Mo-Sa from 6pm; address: ulica Bulwar Filadelfijski - Torun (under the only one car bridge in the city). pilon@poczta.onet.pl
 web: http://www.pilon.prv.pl
 * RAAF (Radical Anti-Fascist Action) - www.antifa-wildcast.prv.pl; po box 43; 15-662 Bialystok 26. pkropotkin@wp.pl
 * "Radical Cheer Leaders" - anarchist female cheer leaders team based in Warszawa. Contact through Emancypunk.
 * "ROZBRAT" - squat / anarchist centre, ul. Pulaskiego 21a; Poznan.
 * S.E.K.W. "KRZYK" - squat / anarchist centre, po box 2; 44-101 Gliwice (ul. Sienkiewicza 25; tel. +48 504878370).
 * "streFA" - infoshop in Szczecin; ul. Domanskiego 1c; tel. 504935357.
 * "SZWEJK" - anti-military service; ul. Pulaskiego 21a; po box 5; 60-966 Poznan 31
 * "TEKNO COLLECTIVE" - underground techno crew from Torun; sadi@poczta.onet.pl
 * WIEDZMA (the WITCH) - anarchy feminist group; P.O. BOX 3321-500 BIALA PODLASKA; POLAND; witchgirl@poczta.onet.pl;

www.wiedzma.most.org.pl
 * "YA BANDA" - anarchist samba band Milanowek/Warszawa.
 olga23@go2.pl

ROMANIA

* AACTIV-IST Collective Timisoara, Antifa autonome - anarchist punk group: aactivistcollective@yahoo.com; pinkpanthers@k.ro; aac@bumerang.ro
 * A Nera - ecological, social and (counter) cultural center; in the mountains Cheile Nerei; aactivistcollective@yahoo.com
 * Actiunea Anarhista (Anarchist Action) - spleenpaty@yahoo.com
 * C.A.F. (Craiova Anarho Front) - anarchist collective from city of Craiova; libertatero@yahoo.com
 * Gluga Neagra / Black Hood - distribution & bookings for diy concerts tours; g_a_rezistenta@yahoo.com
 www.glugancagra.go.ro
 * INFO-PROPAGANDA - anarchist leaflets publishing from Craiova; libertatero@yahoo.com, libertaterra@yahoo.com
 * MISCAREA UNDERGROUND TIMISOARA - (UNDERGROUND MOVEMENT TIMISOARA); www.ugtm.go.ro
 * URA - anarcho-punk fanzine from Craiova; http://www.waste.org/~roa-drunker/horca/roman.html
 * LOVE KILLS - woman anarcho-punk zine / Craiova; libertatero@yahoo.com, libertaterra@yahoo.com
 * "Revolta !" - bymonthly anarchist & diy hc/punk newsletter / Timisoara; aactivistcollective@yahoo.com
 * "Revolutionshop" - anarchist infoshop in Craiova; revolutionshop@hotmail.com
 * www.proiectns.org - grassroots activist site
 * www.miscareapunk.go.ro - site about punk (and not only) in Romania

RUSSIA

* ABC-Moscow - sp12003@email.com; P.O. Box 13 109028 Moscow (no name on envelope!!!)
 * Alliance of Kazan Anarchists - antimil@narod.ru; http://antimil.narod.ru
 * "ANARCHIVE" - russian language electronic library and archive of anarchist theory and practice; http://anarchiye.da.ru
 * Animal and Earth Liberation in Russia - P.O. Box, 135, Sochi, Russia, 354065. anliberation@rambler.ru
 * ANTI-FA Samara - anti_fa@mail.ru
 * Association of Anarchist

Movements (ADA) - see "Noviy Svet" newspaper contact address
 * "Epicenter" - anarchist infoshop in St.Petersburg; post: Epicentr c/o Vladimir Tarasov, PO Box 103, 190013, St.Petersburg, Russia. e-mail: epicenter-infoshop@nm.ru
 * FOOD NOT BOMBS - Moscow - http://foodnotbombs.net.ru
 * Free Trade Unions Confederation - Tomsk; http://kulac.narod.ru
 * Indymedia Russia - (in Russian language) http://russia.indymedia.org; indyru@nadir.org;
 * indymoskwa@pochtamt.ru (Moscow);
 * indymedia_piter@pochtamt.ru (Petersburg);
 * smeshno@riseup.net (Kiev, Ukraine)
 * IOKAS / Irkutsk Organization Of Anarcho-Syndicalist Federation - www.angelfire.com/ia/IOKAS; sidorovan@mail.ru
 * JERRY RUBIN CLUB - Moscow punk club, cooperating with anarchists and environmentalists; jrc@nm.ru; http://jarryclub.narod.ru
 * KRAS - IWA (Confederation of Revolutionary Anarchosyndicalists) - Moscow: c/o Vadim Damier; - Perculok Alynova 13 Kv 24; 107258 Moscow; comanar@mail.ru; http://aitrus.narod.ru
 * "MEGAPHON" - magazine of anarchist, anticapitalist, antiwar, labour, environmental and other kinds of activism; megaphon@mail333.com
 * Network of Working-place Resistance - cockney@rambler.ru; http://antijob.nm.ru
 * "NOVIY SVET" - anarchist newspaper; newworld@mail.admiral.ru; http://novyvet.narod.ru (all issues since 1989).
 * "NOZHI I VILKI" - political punk/hardcore fanzine; zilonis@ncwmail.ru; Dmitry Ivanov, p.o. box 30, S.-Petersburg, 195009, Russia
 * OLD SKOOL KIDS - punk/hardcore label and distro; oldschool-kids@yahoo.com; http://oskids.nm.ru
 * Petersburg Antiwar Committee - see "Noviy Svet" contact address
 * Petersburg League of Anarchists - see "Noviy Svet" contact address
 * PUNK REVIVAL - antifascist and anarchist-punks from St.Petersburg - http://www.punk-revival.com
 * RAINBOW KEEPERS - radical environmental movement. Contact addresses:
 - Nizhniy Novgorod - klem@dront.ru
 - Volklinsk - volklinsk@rambler.ru
 - Kasimov - rk@rk.ryazan.ru (this is also the address of Tretiy Put magazine)
 - Perm - puliark@rambler.ru

COMMUNITIES IN STRUGGLE

COMMUNITIES IN STRUGGLE

- Volgograd - maasha@rambler.ru
 - Ekaterinburg - vty2@mail.ru, dpa@etcl.ru
 - Moscow - rkrzl@scu.ru, blatoba@mail.ru
 - Samara - duplo1@mail.ru, duplo@samtel.ru
<http://duplo.narod.ru>
 - Rostov - rkrostov@don.sitek.net
 - Petersburg - tuuli@mail.ru
 * S.H. SOUND SYSTEM - label & distro including political punk stuff; <http://svinokop.narod.ru>; diyh@yaho.com
 * Siberian Confederation of Labour - Omsk; <http://syndikalist.narod.ru/>
 * "UTOPIA" - anarchist magazine of revolution and counterculture Vladlen Tupikin, p.o. box 80, m-208, Moscow, 117208, Russia; utopia@mail333.com
 * "Victor Serge's Library" - anarchist & communist library;
 * "LYA" - anarchist newspaper (since 1989); lina@piscem.net; <http://volja.nm.ru>
 * "ST" - anarcho-feminist magazine; piscem.net
 * Contacts of Autonomous Action
 * Do not write names of the groups to envelopes!
 * Never republish parts of this contact list without this note! Contacts are from Russia, unless specified otherwise.
 * Federal site is <http://www.avtonom.org>
 * Collective members of Autonomous Action.
 * Name of the group is Autonomous Action - <name of city or region>, unless specified otherwise.
 - Moscow - P. O. Box 13, 109028 Moscow Russia, taom@scu.ru
 - Far East (has members in Vladivostok and Nahodka) - ad_primorye@front.ru,
 - Ivanovo - P. O. Box 1842, 153000 Ivanovo Russia, ad_ivanovo@front.ru
 - Irkutsk - P. O. Box 166, 664058 Irkutsk Russia, klovn@rambler.ru
 - Union of Kaliningrad Anarchists - skakonig@mail.ru, <http://www.anty-yuppi.narod.ru>
 - Kem (Republic of Karelia, Russia) - katousha@onogo.ru
 - Krasnodar - P. O. Box 3472, 350001 Krasnodar Russia
 - Nizhni Novgorod, P. O. Box 25, 603104 Nizhni Novgorod Russia, ad_nn@mail.ru, www.nnov.avtonom.org
 - Ryazan - 137@mail.ru, <http://ad-62.narod.ru>
 - Saratov - koluchka@pocltam.ru
 - Ufa - ADUfa@mail.ru, <http://u-f-a.org.ru>
 - Chelyabinsk - P. O. Box 18742, 454021 Chelyabinsk Russia, naumov2@mail.ru
 - [Http://commune.narod.ru](http://commune.narod.ru)
 - Yerevan (Armenia) - m_eduard@freenet.am
 * Contacts of individual members of Autonomous Action
 - Astrakhan - podero@list.ru
 - Vsevolzhsk (Leningrad Region, Russia) - darkpunk@list.ru
 - Kirov - redskin@ptlan.com
 - Perm - P. O. Box 3095, Perm Russia ad-perm@rambler.ru; deadsun@rambler.ru
 - Tyumen - P. O. Box 4481, 625001 Tyumen Russia, roustan_l@hotmail.com
 - Yaroslavl - ad-yaroslavl@mail.ru

* Correspondents of Autonomous Action (distributors of press of the organisation without a formal membership)
 - Voronezh - dingir@mail.ru, <http://anarhvm.narod.ru/ad>
 - Izhevsk - projectfreedom@mail.ru; tim-mad@udm.ru; antiwar@udm.ru
 - Yoshkar - Ola - punk@zvenigovo.ru
 - Kolonna (Moscow Region, Russia) - matherfaekor2017@mail.ru
 - Naberezhnye Chelny (Tatarstan, Russia) - anarchist@chelny.com
 - Ozersk (Chelyabinsk Region, Russia) - padlik@bk.ru
 - Murmansk - P. O. Box 4614, 183050 Murmansk Russia.
 - Saint Petersburg - blackguard@mail.ru
 - Minsk (Belarus) - belarus@avtonom.org; www.belarus.avtonom.org
 - Lida - 2 (Grodno Region, Belarus) P. O. Box 11, 231282 Lida -2, Grodno Oblast, Belarus
 - Donetsk (Ukraine) - redrash@mail.ru; redskins@mail.ru
 - Sumy (Ukraine) - P. O. Box 131, Glavpochtamt 40030 Sumy Ukraine, ivan-grob@mail.ru

* Websites of groups linked to Autonomous Action:
 - <http://ad-direct.newmail.ru> - federal site maintained from Novorossisk
 - <http://redskin.newmail.ru> - Red and Anarchist Skinheads RASH, maintained from Novorossisk
 - <http://antijob.nm.ru> - site against work, maintained from Moscow
 - <http://anti-fa.da.ru> - Anti-fascist project "Black and Green resistance" from Samara
 - <http://potok.hotmail.ru> - website against Blue Stream gas pipeline, maintained from Novorossisk
 - <http://www.ad-nn.narod.ru> - Nizhni Novgorod group of anarchists
 - <http://www.poet5.narod.ru> - website of anarchist culture, maintained from Nizhni Novgorod
 - <http://www.tao.ca/~dikobraz/distro> - A-distro, biggest distributor of Anarchist literature in the former Soviet Union

SERBIA

* ASI / Anarcho-Syndicalist Initiative - is@inicijativa.org (international secretary); www.inicijativa.org
 * Federation of Internationalist Anarchists - federacija@mlt.net
 * Subwar Collective - Belgrade; shayedwomen216@yahoo.com
 * www.anarchy-serbia.tk - anarcho site from Serbia
 * www.afanovisad.tk - Antifa Novi Sad

SLOVAKIA

* AFA-Bratislava (Antifasisticka Akcia Bratislava) - bacity_afa@yahoo.com <http://blava.antifa.net>
 * AFA-West (Antifascist Action in west Slovakia) - afa_ski@hotmail.com
 * CIRNY KRIZ (ČK, Black Cross) - cierny-kriz@yahoo.com
 * CSAF / Slovakia (CSAF - Czech-Slovakia Anarchist Federation) - slovensko@csaf.cz

(international contact); regional contacts:
 * CSAF Bratislava - bratislava@csaf.cz
 * CSAF B.Bystrica - bbystrica@csaf.cz
 * CSAF Trenčín - trenčin@csaf.cz
 * CSAF Vychod - csaf_sk_vychod@yahoo.com;
 * PRIAMA AKCIA (Direct Action) - radical social anarchist organization / anarchist union; po box 16; 840 08 Bratislava 48; priamaakcia@yahoo.com

SLOVENIA

* A-distribution "Kontrakultura distribucija" - kultura_kontra@yahoo.com.
 * AKD IZBRUH KULTURNI BAZEN - autonomous culture centre in squatted swimm-pool in Kranj; www.akd-izbruh.tk; akd_izbruh@yahoo.com
 * SAF / Social Anarchist Federation - safinfo@email.si
 * Union of self-organised workers - SiSD/USW - is_usw@yahoo.com Tel.: 00386(0)31892967

UKRAINE

* Autonomous Action / Donetsk - redrash@mail.ru; redskins@mail.ru
 * Autonomous Action / Sumy - P. O. Box 131, Glavpochtamt 40030 Sumy Ukraine (no name of the group to envelope), ivangrob@mail.ru
 * INFOSHOP - infoshop.in.kijev; infoshop@gmail.com; Gorki St. 12B, Kiev, open from 1-7PM.
 * "Nabat" - ukrainian libertarian anarchist newspaper, www.nabat.info; azaroff@hotmail.ru
 * www.zaraz.org - page of anarchists from Kyiv
 * TIGRA NIGRA - anarchist group from Kiev, <http://in.zaraz.org>

TURKEY

* Anarsist Bakis - <http://go.to/anarsistbakis> - archive of anarchist texts
 * ABC / Anarchist Black Crescent - abcanka-ra@yahoo.com
 * "İmlâsîz" - www.imlasizdergi.cjb.net - anarchist magazine
 * "İsimsiz" - anarchist counter-magazine; isimsiz_dergi@yahoo.com
 * KaosGL - www.kaosgl.com - antiauthoritarian gay/lesbian group and magazine
 * "Kara Kizil" - <http://www.karakizil.tr.ex-anarchocommunist.gro.up>
 * <http://uygarligakarsi.cjb.net> - anarchoprimitivists
 * <http://ankaralanzin.freecervers.com> - zinc from Ankara
 * <http://veganarsi.cjb.net> - anarchoprimitivist zinc
 * www.geocities.com/kaosyayinlari - anarchist publisher in Istanbul
 * www.mecmu-a.org - magazine from Istanbul

THIS LIST CAN BE ENLARGED AND KEPT CURRENT ONLY WITH YOUR HELP.
 SO WE ARE CALLING ALL GROUPS AND ACTIVISTS AROUND EASTERN EUROPE
 FOR HELP THROUGH CONTACTING US EACH TIME WHEN YOU REALIZE
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EDUCATE - ORGANIZE - PROTEST

UPCOMING DATES

**INTERNATIONAL RADICAL
ECOLOGICAL PROTEST CAMP IN
OTRADNIY RUSSIA - JULY AND AUGUST**

EKOTOPIA MOLDOVA - AUGUST 1-14

**NO BORDER CAMP NEAR UMAG IN
ISTRIA CROATIA - AUGUST 19-21**

G8 MEETING IN RUSSIA - 2006

ANALYSE - RESIST - CREATE NEW